

Cornelius Rufus et aliam
25 Bourne Street
West Street

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXI.—NEW SERIES, No. 841.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11, 1861.

PRICE: UNSTAMPED .. 3d.
STAMPED 6d.

EDUCATION in SCARBOROUGH.

The Rev. G. D. BARTLET, M.A., begs to intimate to Parents and Guardians of youth that he intends to OPEN a BOARDING SCHOOL in Scarborough, Yorkshire, after Christmas next, to be conducted on the same system as that adopted in the best schools in Edinburgh. The special aim of the school will be to afford a course of tuition best adapted for the preparation of Young Gentlemen, either for efficiently occupying commercial spheres, or entering on a more advanced stage of study at any of the Universities.

The moral training of the Pupils will be an object of constant solicitude and care.

In order to secure thoroughness in every department, Assistant Masters will co-operate with the Principal.

Terms, from Forty to Forty-five Guineas per annum.

Further particulars, with Testimonials and Prospectuses, will be furnished by the Rev. R. Bagnall, Westborough Lodge, Scarborough, until the opening of the School.

REFERRERS.

The Rev. R. Bagnall, Scarborough.
The Rev. J. Parsons, York.
The Rev. R. Bruce, M.A., Huddersfield.
The Rev. Gustave R. Conder, M.A., Leeds.
The Rev. Wm. McKerrow, D.D., Manchester.
The Rev. John Eadie, D.D., LL.D., Glasgow.
The Rev. P. McDowall, M.A., Alloa, Scotland.
A. B. Shand, Esq., Advocate, Queen-street, Edinburgh.
W. P. Adams, Esq., M.P., Blair Adam, N.B.
The Rev. John Edmonds, D.D., 2, Leigh Villas, Hamilton-place, London.

RE-OPENING of HIGHGATE CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL.

The above Place of Worship will (p.v.) be RE-OPENED for DIVINE SERVICE, after its recent enlargement, repairs, New Organ, &c., as follows:—

On WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. 11, at Seven o'clock, a PUBLIC DEVOTIONAL SERVICE will be held, when ADDRESSES will be delivered by Rev. R. C. HOWELL, of Finchley, and Rev. JOHN COBBIN, of Hornsey.

On THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 12, at Seven o'clock, Rev. THOMAS BINNEY, of London, will deliver a Lecture on the "History of St. Paul."

On SATURDAY-EVENING, Dec. 15, TWO SERMONS will be preached: that in the Morning, at Eleven, by Rev. JOSEPH VINAY, Pastor of the place; that in the Evening, at half-past six, by Rev. Dr. HALLEY, of New College.

Tickets for Mr. Binney's Lecture, 1s. each, may be obtained of the Chapel Keeper, or at the Doors.

COLLECTIONS will be made after each Service towards the Building Fund.

WAR WITH AMERICA.—A SPECIAL PRAYER MEETING

will be held on THURSDAY EVENING, from Six o'clock till Ten, in CROSBY HALL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, for the Purpose of Imploping the Divine Interposition to Avert the impending War with America.

UNITED PRAYER for the AVERTING of WAR WITH AMERICA.

A Meeting convened by the Committee of the Evangelical Alliance, for SPECIAL PRAYER with reference to the present Crisis of our Relations with the United States, will (p.v.) be held in the LARGE ROOM, EXETER HALL, on THURSDAY NEXT (to-morrow), December 12, to commence at half-past Two o'clock precisely.

CULLING E. EARDLEY, Bart., Chairman.

T. R. Birks, M.A., W. M. Bunting, Edward Steane, D.D., David King, LL.D., Hon. Secretaries; William Cardall, M.A., James Davis, Hermann Schmettau, Secretaries.

Christians of all Denominations are invited.

COLONY OF 1,000 NONCONFORMISTS, NEW ZEALAND.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Heads of families and others, intending to join the above movement, are informed that application for enrolment should be made on or before the last day of the year. On and after January 1, 1862, extra expenses will be incurred.

A second periodical report is now ready, detailing past successes and future plans. The first report, with prospectus, may be had by inclosing stamp to Mr. Brame, Hon. Sec., 24, Waterloo-street, Birmingham.

N.B.—Those eligible for membership are capitalists, small farmers, and tradesmen; also, agricultural labourers and skilled mechanics. Cheap passage rates. Free grants of land. Pioneers sent to prepare the way.

TEN THOUSAND POOR BLIND PEOPLE earnestly APPEAL for AID.

CHRISTIAN BLIND RELIEF SOCIETY.

Instituted 1843.

The Committee of this Society earnestly APPEAL for AID to enable them to increase the number of pensioners to 1,000 before the close of 1861. There are at present nearly 300 on the funds.

The mode of administering relief is by pensions of half-a-crown per week, which the Society is desirous of extending, regardless of creed or denomination, to every blind person of good moral character, who shall possess the necessary qualifications—blindness and want.

SUBSCRIPTIONS or DONATIONS will be received by the London and Westminster Bank, and its branches; or by H. E. Gurney, Esq. (Overend, Gurney, and Co.), Lombard-street; John Gurney Fry, Esq., 14, St. Helen's-place, Bishopsgate.

Reports and all information may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Mr. Cox, 100, Borough-road, S.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK HILL.

For Children of both Sexes, and from any part of the Kingdom.

2,033 Children have been admitted; 769 since 184".

281 are now in the schools.

63 have been received during the present year.

The next Election will occur in April. Forms to fill up for Candidates to be had on application.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, E.C., London.

CONTRIBUTIONS are greatly needed and very earnestly solicited to enable the Committee to receive a larger number of Orphans. The recent alterations afford room for 400 altogether.

THE NEW ZEALAND INVESTMENT COMPANY.

78, Lombard-street, and 14, Cornhill, London.

Capital, 100,000*l.*, with power of increase, in Shares of 10*l.* each.

The object of this Company is to bring within the reach of Capitalists here the large returns obtainable for money invested in the Colony of New Zealand.

The funds will be employed in the purchase of Lands and Sheep Stations, and similar investments of a safe character.

Application for Shares to be made to John Muir, Managing Director, at the Office of the Company, accompanied by remittance for the amount applied for, as the whole Capital is to be called up at once.

TO DRAPERS.—A nice BUSINESS for DISPOSAL, in a town about forty miles from London.

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TO DRAPERS.—For DISPOSAL, a Genuine DRAPERY and MILLINERY BUSINESS, in a fashionable watering place. Annual Profits, 700*l.* Stock about 1,500*l.* Satisfactory reasons for disposal.

Apply, by letter, A. B., care of Messrs. J. and R. Morley, Wood-street, London, E.C.

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Apply to W. Driver, Grocer, &c., near Railway Station, Lewisham, Kent.

TO WATCH and CLOCK MAKERS.—WANTED, about Christmas or January next, a respectable YOUNG MAN as INDOOR ASSISTANT in the above business. He must have a good practical knowledge of the Jobbing in its various departments, and one who understands Engraving would be preferred.

Apply, with references, to Mr. G. Corral, Watchmaker and Jeweller, Mansfield, Notts.

WANTED, an active and intelligent YOUTH as APPRENTICE to the BOOKSELLING and STATIONERY BUSINESS.

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Address, N. R., "Nonconformist" Office.

WANTED, THREE SERVANTS, immediately after Christmas, at the Commercial School, Cranford Hall, near Hounslow. An Active, Confidential FEMALE as HOUSEMAID, and to take charge of the pupils' apparel. A Strong, well-qualified LAUNDRY-MAID, and a clean, active PLAIN COOK.

WANTED, in a first-class School, a Gentleman to teach Mathematics, English, and Elementary French, and to share in the general superintendence of the Pupils.

Apply, stating age, qualifications, and references, to F. H., Post-office, Woodford-green, N.E.

WANTED, at the commencement of the New Year, a GOVERNESS, to Educate FOUR CHILDREN, under Twelve years of age. She must possess ability to give instruction in every branch of a solid English education, and also in Music, Singing, French, and Drawing. None but Nonconformists need apply.

Address, J. B., South Cheriton Cottage, near Wincaton, Somerset.

BOARDING SCHOOL for TRADESMEN'S SONS, Rochford, Essex. Principal—Mr. G. FOSTER.

Charge, 2*l.* per annum.

Circulars at Mr. H. F. Hooton's, 31, Bush-lane, Cannon-street.

THE HOME SCHOOL, DOVER.

The Rev. MARTIN REED, LL.D., assisted by resident and other Masters, RECEIVES a Select and Limited Number of PUPILS.

Dr. R. endeavours to combine the careful formation of Character with the highest degree of Mental and Physical Culture.

CRANFORD HALL COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

Mr. VERNY begs respectfully to inform his Friends and the Public generally, that in consequence of the increasing requirements of his Establishment he has REMOVED his SCHOOL from SLOUGH to very superior premises, known as CRANFORD HALL, near HOUNSLOW, Middlesex. A Circular forwarded upon application. September, 1861.

DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON.

PRINCIPAL—REV. W. H. GRIFFITH, M.A., assisted by Six Resident Masters.

The course of instruction in this Institution constitutes a thorough preparation for Professional and Commercial pursuits.

Special attention is paid to the Moral and Religious Education of the Pupils.

Further particulars may be obtained by application to the Principal or the Secretary, Rev. J. S. Underwood, Taunton.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—This evening, at half-past Seven, Lecture by the Rev. A. BATH POWER, M.A., F.C.S.—Important Novelties—1st, Two New Lectures by Professor J. H. Pepper, F.C.S., A. Inst. C.E., entitled "THE IRON AGE," and the Science of the Armstrong, Whitworth, and other Rifled Guns, illustrated with experiments, also flash pictures, diagrams, and photographs, shown by the City-Hydrogen Light on the largest scale. 2nd, Entirely New Series of DISSOLVING VIEWS, with Descriptive Lectures, by James D. Malcolm, Esq., illustrating the Navies, Dockyards, and Iron-clad War Steamers, the "Warrior" and "La Gloire" of England and France, copied from the drawings of J. L. Fiekerling, Esq., whose delineations of war ships, &c. are so well known. 3rd, Third New Series of Photographs, by Messrs. Birmingh., of the International Exhibition of 1861, showing the progress of the Building to the present time.

UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, No. 1, King William-street, London, W.C.

Established in the year 1834.

Committees in Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

Agents throughout India.

The last Annual Reduction of Premium amounted to Forty-five per cent., so that a person being assured for 1,000*l.* at the age of Thirty is now paying 13*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* instead of 24*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*

INVESTED CAPITAL UPWARDS OF 750,000*l.*

M. E. IMPEY, Secretary.

THE SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

HEAD OFFICE—9, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH, IS NOW,

IN ANNUAL REVENUE AND EXTENT OF BUSINESS, THE LARGEST MUTUAL LIFE OFFICE IN THE WORLD.

I.—BONUS SYSTEM.

The LAST BONUS for the Seven years ending December, 1859, yielded Additions on the Sum Assured of from 1*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* on the most recent Policies, up to 3*l.* 6*s.* per cent. per annum on the oldest Policies, which was equal, on an average, to from 50*l.* per cent. to 107*l.* per cent. of the Seven Premiums paid, and was one of the largest bonuses ever declared by any Insurance Company.

II.—CASH VALUE OF POLICIES PAYABLE ON DEMAND.

CASH VALUE is allowed at any time from the issue of a Policy on a strictly equitable scale, by which neither retiring nor remaining Members are benefited at the expense of the other.

III.—FUNDS AND REVENUE.

INVESTED FUNDS .. 23,700,000*l.* ANNUAL REVENUE .. 2450,000

HUGH M'KEAN, CENTRAL AGENT.

London, 4, Royal Exchange-buildings, Cornhill, Nov., 1861.

LOCAL AGENTS.

Major R. S. Ridge, 49, Pall-mall.

Benton Seeley, Bookseller, Islington-green.

Robertson and White, Accountants, 4, Princes-street, City.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

PROPOSALS LODGED AT THE HEAD OFFICE, OR WITH ANY OF THE AGENTS, BEFORE 31ST DECEMBER, WILL SECURE PARTICIPATION IN THE ABOVE ADVANTAGES, AND ALSO ONE BONUS MORE THAN PROPOSALS OF LATER DATE.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE PROFESSOR AND THE STATESMAN.

THE letter of Professor Goldwin Smith which we copied into our own columns last week from those of the *Daily News* may be taken as an indication that the great question of Church Establishments is passing into a new and higher phase. The spiritual life of the Church of England, as we have all along foreseen, is becoming too intense to be kept under by the political and merely secular arrangements by which it is oppressed. It is at length breaking forth in flame from the very heart of the system, and the brilliant but steady light which it emits will awaken numberless consciences, securely impervious to all disturbance from without. The ruling minds of the Church have prevailed upon its members to close every inlet to the unwelcome intrusion of doubt or even misgiving on the question at issue, and they, willing to be soothed, have tried to hush to peace all fear of danger from external causes. Suddenly, and when, perhaps, they least expected it, their well-guarded repose is broken in upon by the discovery of fire within the very sanctuary in which they had imagined they might safely rest. Thoughts and convictions which were regarded as comparatively harmless beyond the pale of the Establishment, are igniting, as by a sort of spontaneous combustion, in its innermost retreat. The first feeling appears to be that of speechless dismay. The silence is ominous. The outcry, after astonishment has partially subsided, will, no doubt, be great—but there will be thousands who, after having read Professor Smith's letter, will find it utterly impossible to lie down again in peace, and take their sleep as before. The question he has raised will have to be discussed between Churchman and Churchman, and the controversy will speedily assume a much more serious and practical character.

The Oxford Professor, quite independently of the vigour of his style, and the cleaving force of his logic, exhibits those moral qualifications for the stupendous work to which he would seem to be putting his hand, which give us the strongest assurance that he will not work in vain. He evidently speaks because he can hold his peace no longer. Every selfish and worldly consideration would bid him be silent. His training, his associations, his friendships, his position, his prospects, are such as must have subjected his convictions or, at any rate, his public utterance of them to the severest test. Close and familiar intercourse with the evils produced by the Establishment upon the moral tone of its members has not benumbed his own conscience. He has faith in "the simple motives which actuate common men." He believes in the all-conquering energy of religious life, because it is strong in his own heart. The sceptical indifference of statesmen constitutes no part of his philosophy. His sympathies are with earnest Christianity,

and he regards it as the plastic power which is to mould the character and the destiny of nations. Above all, he resents the insult done to his spiritual nature, and to that of his fellow-men, by the political bonds which hinder its free development, and the political bribes which corrupt its simplicity. He loves his Church too well to regard her present position with unconcern—and the very fervour of his love constrains him to utter in her ears a sharp but faithful call to consider her ways.

Mr. Goldwin Smith's letter consists of animadversions on that portion of Lord Stanley's late speech to his constituents, which related to the present security of the English Church Establishment. The young statesman, casting his glance over that space of futurity within which he will probably be among our foremost men, rather contemptuously eliminated the political emancipation of the Church of England from among the practical questions of the age. "Think again!" says the young professor in effect, "in your philosophic scepticism, you have left out of account some of the most powerful forces already in action amongst us. You rely upon the balance of power between the Church and the unendowed denominations as a sufficient guarantee for the stability of the former for at least a generation to come, and you count upon that balance being maintained by the union of parties bitterly opposed to each other in all respects but their common political relation to the State? But have you considered that their differences have been the buddings forth of their religious life, and how unlikely it is that they will be voluntarily nipped off by a low regard to 'political convenience'? As the life grows, strength of conviction grows with it, and who can 'hope to prevent the hostile parties from coming to a mortal issue in the long run'? Do you not see that 'their mutual fury is to be found in their unnatural union'? that national scepticism will be its inevitable result, in the presence of which no people have ever been able successfully to solve any great political or social problem? Are not the most highly-gifted and highly-cultivated minds more and more disposed to shrink from the clerical profession as subjecting them to an ignoble bondage? The Irish Establishment must go—the Scotch Establishment is virtually gone—the Papacy is tottering to its fall, and, 'as its end comes in view, the hope and the desire of reunion are beginning to show themselves at widely distant points of divided Christendom. If that hope and that desire grow, they must sweep State Establishments out of their path.'"

The statesman may or may not take the advice of the professor and reconsider the matter. But, assuredly, the thoughtful, the conscientious, the devout—they to whom Christianity is something grander, loftier, better than a tool for politicians to handle, will be startled into serious attention to the subject by these bold words of earnest admonition. Why, even now, says Mr. Smith, "The English Nonconformists, the Scotch Free Churchmen, the Roman Catholics, and the party of liberty in the Church of England itself, if their forces were combined, would be strong enough to enforce a general measure of emancipation. It is the plain duty, as well as the interest, of all of them to use their power. Union and leaders only are wanting. They may be long in coming, perhaps, but in the end they are sure to come."

We trust these words will sink deep into the hearts of our friends, reassure their faith, and reanimate their courage. In substance, they have frequently heard them before; but not from the bosom of Oxford University. Our enterprise is not such a political romance as men of Lord Stanley's stamp appear to take for granted. We are working in the direction of the inevitable tendencies of the age. The Providence of God moves on, slowly and surely, towards the end with which we have identified ourselves. In this conviction let us faithfully discharge our duty and calmly await the result!

BICENTENARY PROSPECTS.

WE rejoice, with a joy the full depth of which we are unable to express, that there is a fair prospect of effecting a combination of several denominations in the efforts to be made during the course of next year to call attention to, and enforce, the lessons taught us by the ejection of the two thousand ministers from the Church of England on St. Bartholomew's day, A.D. 1662. A meeting of gentlemen, invited by circular, and not confined to any one particular Christian communion, was held on Monday last, at the Baptist Library, Moorgate-street, with our old and respected friend, Mr. E. Swaine, in the chair, at which, after due deliberation and discussion, a resolution approving of united action in this matter was unanimously affirmed, and a large and influential deputation appointed to consult with the committee nominated by the Congregational Conference, and to ascertain whether any and what difficulties stand in the way of the union contemplated, and, if so, whether they may not be got over. The meeting having been of a semi-private character, we are precluded from doing more than announcing to our readers its general result; but we shall not be chargeable with a breach of confidence in expressing, not merely our hope, but our confident belief, founded upon what took place at this preliminary gathering, that no serious obstacle will be interposed to prevent the realisation of the main object in view, and that the leading Nonconformist bodies will act together, in so far, at least, as the dissemination of the truths appropriate to the occasion is concerned. The raising of a fund will continue to be a distinct and denominational enterprise; but in the work of collecting, publishing, and interpreting the historical facts of the period, and of impressing their moral upon the mind of the present generation, there will be, we have sanguine expectations, a fair illustration of the old maxim that "union is strength."

THE BICENTENARY OF BARTHOLOMEW'S DAY.

In our last number we published a circular addressed by the Committee of the Baptist Union to a large number of ministers and laymen of various denominations inviting them to attend a conference with the object of forming a central committee for the origination and superintendence of such measures as might appear desirable for commemorating the Bicentenary of St. Bartholomew's Day, 1662, by means of a united and undenominational movement. The meeting was held at noon on Monday last, at the Baptist Library, Moorgate-street, and was attended by about a hundred gentlemen, amongst whom were the Revs. Dr. Vaughan, Dr. Spence, Dr. Hoby, Dr. Burns, T. Binney, W. Brock, J. Stoughton, E. White, R. Redpath, J. H. Hinton, F. Trestrail, S. Green, D. Katterns, W. G. Lewis, J. Stent, C. Stanford, H. Richard, C. J. Middleditch, W. Barker, S. Bird, W. H. Bonner, J. H. Millard, R. Macbeth, J. Bigwood, J. S. Stanion, J. Clifford, J. Blomfield, T. Goadby, A. McKennal, Dr. Price, Dr. Foster, and Messrs. S. Morley, E. Swaine, W. Edwards, E. Miall, E. B. Underhill, T. Pewtress, Stafford Allen, A. T. Bowser, G. F. Whiteley, W. Heaton, J. M. Hare, H. S. Skeats, C. S. Miall, &c., &c.

Edward Swaine, Esq., was called to the chair; and the Rev. S. Green opened the proceedings with prayer. The Rev. J. H. Hinton introduced the business of the conference. Some resolutions having been formally laid before the conference, considerable discussion took place as to the object for which the meeting was convened. There was a unanimous feeling that united and undenominational action in commemorating the events of 1662 was desirable. It was, however, pointed out that a conference of members of the Congregational body had already appointed a large committee to carry out plans similar to those

contemplated by the present movement, and the importance of acting in harmony with that committee was urged by various speakers. Eventually the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

That, in the judgment of this meeting, it is due to the Nonconformists of 1662, that the bicentenary of their ejection from the Church of England, which will occur on the 24th of August next, should be celebrated by the Nonconformists of the nineteenth century in a manner adapted at once to do honour to their memory, and to render their example useful to the present age.

That, in order most effectually to obtain this end, it is, in the judgment of this meeting, of great importance that the action of the Nonconformist body should be undenominational and united.

And that, therefore, the gentlemen hereafter named be appointed a deputation to confer with the Committee appointed by the Congregational Conference, with a view of obtaining such a modification of their course as may lead to united action:—Drs. Vaughan and Burns; Revs. W. Brock, J. H. Hinton, Thos. Binney, R. Macbeth, D. Katters, R. Redpath; Edward Miall, Esq.; W. Heaton, Esq.; Samuel Morley, Esq.; Stafford Allen, Esq.; W. Edwards, Esq.; Edward Swaine, Esq. (chairman); Rev. Samuel Cox (secretary).

BICENTENARY LECTURES.

The Rev. J. G. Rogers, B.A., proposes to deliver during the winter, in the School-room, Albion-street, Ashton-under-Lyne, a course of lectures on the "Church History of England," with the view of illustrating the principles and history of Protestant Dissenters. The following are the subjects:—1. John Wycliffe and the Lollards. 2. Henry VIII. and the Rise of the Anglican Church. 3. Hooper, the Puritan Bishop, and his Times. 4. The History of the Prayer-book. 5. Elizabeth and the Puritans. 6. The Rise and Early History of Independency. 7. The Westminster Assembly. 8. Oliver Cromwell, "Rex Independentium." 9. "Black Bartholomew—1662." 10. The Revolution of 1688.

The Rev. Thomas Green, M.A., of the same town, will also deliver a course of lectures on the origin, the conflicts, and the triumphs of Independency in England. The announcement states "the Bicentenary of the Expulsion of Two Thousand Ministers of the Gospel from the State Church will occur on August the 24th, 1862. The lectures will be preparatory to and explanatory of this event, and will discuss the great principles for which our Nonconformist ancestors suffered, as well as sketch the history in which those principles were exhibited." The first lecture was on the following subject:—"The influence of the Reformation on the Religious Liberties of England—Martin Luther—Henry VIII. and his two Daughters—the Beginnings of Independency."

The Rev. R. Brindley, of Bath, has issued a syllabus for the Percy Chapel Congregational Class for the study of the Scriptures, the leading idea of which is, "the Church Principles of the New Testament." It includes a lecture on "The Sufferings and Emigration of the Pilgrim Fathers," illustrated by diagrams.

PROFESSOR GOLDWIN SMITH AND THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

In a letter, to which great prominence is given in the *Daily News*, "Anglicanus" expresses his belief that so far as the release of clergymen and of Masters of Arts from the tests now imposed by academical statutes, ecclesiastical canons, and Acts of Parliament is concerned, himself and, he believes, hundreds if not thousands of the laity are at one with Prof. Smith. The imposition of these tests is useless for purposes of unity, is ensnaring to weak consciences, is mischievous as throwing a stumbling-block in the way of our ablest and most devoted pastors and teachers at the very outset of their ecclesiastical ministry and their academical career. "I am persuaded that the entire abolition of these subscriptions would be an unmixed good to the Universities, the Church, and the Nation." But "Anglicanus" is unable to see the connexion between the existence of the Established Church and subscription. The Church is indeed mediæval, but the practice of subscription to articles of faith, or to the details of a liturgical formulary, is not only not mediæval, it is not only no part of the Unreformed Established Church, but it is not even an essential part of the Reformed Established Church. If ever the connexion of Church and State in England was strong, it was so in the reigns of Henry and Edward, when subscription was unknown. It was when the connexion first began to be broken, in the reign of Charles II., that subscription assumed its worst and most galling shape. Nor, except by a technicality, can subscription be said to be now imposed by the State. It is kept up by the clerical element and not by the laity. "Anglicanus" adds:—

I venture to look forward, with Cavour, to the union of religion and liberty in an Italian Church, where the clergy shall own the wholesome restraint of the state and the nation, rather than to the separation and independence which, in Rome and in France, are claimed by the Ultramontane party under the false name of religious freedom. I venture, with Lord Stanley, to look forward to a long period of usefulness for the Established Church of England; and whilst I entreat him, with Dr. Goldwin Smith, not to treat the spiritual struggles of the age as beneath his notice, I urge him to persevere in his good intention of fostering the opportunities afforded by an institution so ancient, so powerful, yet so capable of indefinite enlargement and improvement as the Established Church of England;

To this letter Professor Goldwin Smith replies:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY NEWS.

Sir,—“Anglicanus” and I are, I trust, at one in desiring perfect freedom of thought and speech; and we are certainly at one in regarding the present state of things in the Established Church as “ensnaring,” “mischievous,” and such as ought no longer to be endured. But I fear that his hope of combining perfect freedom of thought and speech with the continuance of an Established Church (it is really a defiance of facts to call it “National”) rests on an historical fallacy. His answer to me is based on the statement that “subscription,” the only restraint on conscience which he appears to recognise, is not an essential part of the Establishment, but an “excrescence,” which grew up in the time of Elizabeth, and was unknown in what he seems to regard as the comparatively liberal times of the Plantagenets and Henry VIII. The reply is simple. “Subscription” was needless when absolute submission to the established creed and worship was enforced by sending all heretics to the stake.

I am, &c.,

GOLDWIN SMITH.

Oxford, Dec. 7.

Lord Ebury has published a letter in reference to this correspondence, in which he says:—

If it be indeed true that no freedom can be accorded to the Established Church in her present state of thralldom without involving her total destruction, I should at once abandon my task. “Anglicanus,” however, has with singular skill and ability parried this fatal assumption by simply placing before the public the history of the case, and the true issue, with which we are alone concerned. My reason for requesting you to be good enough to give insertion to this communication is, because the writer makes the following statement:—“I believe hundreds, if not thousands, of laymen and clergymen are entirely at one in desiring the release of our ministry and M.A.’s from the tests now imposed upon them by academical statutes, ecclesiastical canons, and acts of Parliament.” I am unable to say with certainty whether or no he is right in his calculations. I must, however, add that I cannot suppose him to be wrong, inasmuch as I cannot but think that hundreds, if not thousands, must object to a system which is proved to be useless for the purposes of unity, ensnaring to weak consciences, and mischievous as casting a stumbling-block in the way of our best and most devoted pastors at the outset of their ministry and their academical career.

What I earnestly desire is, that should our belief turn out to be correct, these persons so thinking would demonstrate their wishes by petition to Parliament, and thus strengthen the hands of those who will make their voice to be heard, and who are now struggling with difficulties and discouragements which are well nigh overwhelming.

At the end of last session I gave notice of my intention to introduce a bill to relax the terms of subscription imposed by the 13th and 14th of Charles II., the most offensive of our statutes in that respect. The bill is in process of being draughted, and it is my intention to lay it on the table of the House, when Parliament meets, together with another, giving greater freedom to our ministry in the use of the Liturgy.

Should any desire to have the heads of petitions for signature, they will, I doubt not, be willingly supplied by the Council of the Society for Reviewing the Acts of Uniformity and the Prayer-book, No. 17, Buckingham-street, Strand, the secretary of which is the Rev. Richard Bingham.

(From the *Patriot*.)

The appearance of this remarkable letter marks an era in the great Church and State controversy in England. It reforms the attack upon new ground of vantage. It is as if an army reinforced in the midst of a campaign by a considerable body of cavalry, in which arm it had been deficient, thenceforth moved into an open country, where its new auxiliaries could have opportunity of doing execution. Hitherto the battle has unavoidably worn too much the appearance of being merely a Dissenters’ assault upon High Church intolerance and ascendancy; but now that dignitaries, of learning and ability, openly declare that the relation to the State of the Church to which they belong is incompatible with religious freedom, productive of endless schisms, and an obsolete relic of the feudal system which must be swept away, there can be no more pretence that a mere outpost is all that is in danger. The engagement is becoming general, and the occupation of the capital depends on the issue of the fight.

The Oxford Professor of Greek may be starved on 40*l.* a-year for assailing the creeds of the Establishment; but what shall be done with the Oxford Professor of History for assailing the very conditions of its existence? At present not a dog barks. It would be convenient to ignore him, but that is impossible. Mr. Goldwin Smith, one of her Majesty’s Commissioners on Education, is both from his position and his great abilities a man of mark. It is not only in the columns of a newspaper that he has spoken. He has condemned Church and State connection in the strongest language in more than one deliberate publication. He cannot be passed over—we know that he cannot be answered; there is nothing left but per-ecution, or an admission that he is in the right. Will Convocation condemn him? will a bishop prosecute him? or will it be permitted that an Anti-State-Church party also should form itself within the bosom of the Establishment, and complete a picture of dislocation as ludicrous as Hogarth’s illustration of Perspective?

(From the *Westeyan Times*.)

So shrewd a Churchman as Mr. Bull, of Birmingham, counsels his brethren to regard the Liberation Society as “the most perfect piece of political mechanism ever constructed.” So disinterested a Churchman as the receding Vicar of Doncaster presides at the laying of a voluntary Church-rate, and has to entreat his own parishioners, “prominent Churchmen,” to support their own church. So impartial a judge as Mr. Angell James’s successor publicly calls upon such men as the authors of the “Essays and Reviews” to cease drawing national money and wearing national honours while opposing doctrines they had sworn and were paid and appointed to support; adding, in the very spirit and

almost in the terms of Mr. Goldwin Smith, “If, indeed, as a question of political expediency, men of all opinions were to find a place in the State Church, then he felt he was expressing the opinion of all his brethren of the Church of England around him, that the sooner the tie between the Church of England and the State was dissolved the better it would be for the truth.” Canon Miller, for one, must have felt that he was answered as to his whining lament over Nonconformist declensions. But all these subsidiary signs and tokens sink into insignificance before the trumpet blast which has been blown from the heights of Oxford, and such shallow reasoners and superficial observers as Dr. Osborn and Mr. Percival Bunting must feel acutely the littleness of their insect endeavours.

(From the *Sheffield Independent*.)

The letter of Professor Smith shows the great progress that has been made by the cause of religious liberty. Its advocacy is no longer left to obscure Dissenters and stump orators, but is taken up by one of the learned heads of the famed University of Oxford. We have only to imagine history read and taught in the light of such views as Professor Goldwin Smith has taken, to understand how changed an aspect its facts will wear to the present race of Oxford students. The Professor will be a terrible disturber of old notions. Interpreted by him all the stones of Oxford will tell a new story, and the monuments of kings and bishops, of confessors and martyrs, the persecutors and the persecuted, will be irradiated with a new glory or enveloped in an unwonted shade. Great changes are looming in the distance, when Oxford’s Professor of History addresses to a liberal newspaper such a pregnant letter as that of Goldwin Smith.

(From the *Scottish Press*.)

The Scotch Establishment must go—there is no doubt of it;—it is something new and refreshing to hear such sentiments so fearlessly expressed by the Oxford professor—and one, too, of no mean standing.

Surely, then, it is the duty of Dissenters to aid in accomplishing the work—to use every means in their power to expound and enforce their principles, and we are glad to see that the Edinburgh Dissenters are not indifferent to the occasion. Of late those principles have been sadly beclouded and mystified—narrowed and unsupplied, and there is need for some “clearing up” by competent hands. It is not, however, a matter to be rashly gone about, and due consideration as to “time and mode of action” is prudent and practically wise.

ANOTHER CONFERENCE ON CHURCH-RATE COMPROMISE.

On Thursday, an influential meeting of clergy and laity took place in the Parochial School Committee Room, Richmond, Surrey, for the purpose of discussing the following and other subjects in connexion with Church-rates:—

1. Do you think it expedient to amend the law of Church-rates—
 - a. By defining more clearly the objects of the rate.
 - b. By abolishing the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts, and by substituting that of the Civil Courts, with power of recovery as in the case of poor-rates.
 - c. By giving power to district churches to levy and disburse their own rate?
2. Do you assent to a claim of exemption to this effect:—“I conscientiously object to a Church-rate, and desire to be exempted during the next year?”
3. Do you wish that persons so exempted from payment should be debarred, during the time of their exemption, from attending all vestry meetings affecting Church matters?

The Ven. Archdeacon, in opening the meeting, spoke of the subject as one of vital importance, and one that demanded unanimity from the Church, and he felt sure that if the authorities of the Church would come to some common agreement respecting Church-rates, the present opportunity should not be lost. There were many who wished that the question should not be agitated at all by Churchmen, because they were tired of it; but when it was known that the enemies of the Church had determined to attack this outwork in the most vigorous and systematic manner, he felt certain that we ought to be prepared for the attack. The Liberation Society, a powerfully organised body, included among their supporters members of Parliament and others of influence. They had an income of 4,000*l.* a year, and from their central office shrewd, clever writers were sent forth to advocate their cause; this alone required vigilant watching. One thing he thanked the society for, namely, that they had now avowed their object, which was to do away with the Church as an establishment, and so reduce it to a level with the various denominations around us. They would reduce the endowments of the Church and confiscate them for secular objects, saying that such endowments as much belonged to them as to those to whom they were originally made. He considered that by thus avowing their objects they had weakened their cause, as well as aroused the members of our Church to a sense of the necessity for immediate action. He, for one, felt sure if this outwork was ceded they would soon make another attack. He concluded by passing in review some of the various plans which had been suggested, and earnestly soliciting expressions of opinion from the lay members present.

After some discussion, a vote was taken on the expediency of an amendment of the law of Church-rates, and carried. The second and third points were also carried. In connexion with the fourth the vicar foresaw the difficulty of taking the conscientious objections of people, because they may often arise from pecuniary causes, and he thought if one began to object others would soon do so, and that in rural parishes it would spread with great rapidity. He thought we must not legislate as if the Church had come to an end—or that England had come to an end. He thought that

heartily co-operation would win back Dissenters in time. He thought the present plan a temporary expedient for regaining lost ground, and we must put up with it. Mr. Ball moved that a resolution be framed omitting the conscientious objections, but adding the exclusion from vestry meetings. H. G. Ashurst, Esq., seconded this proposition, and felt the full force of the necessity of leaving the word *conscience* out. The second proposition, with the third incorporated, was carried.

The vicar, in conclusion, said that he considered they might safely act on the advice he had received from J. C. Selwyn, Esq., M.P., viz., not to petition Parliament until they saw what the adversary was doing; watch him, and be prepared to turn him at any point you may deem dangerous to your position as Churchmen.

MEETINGS IN LANCASHIRE.

BOLTON.—An influentially attended meeting of the Liberation Society was held here last Tuesday evening, in the Mawdsley-street school-room. R. Heywood, Esq., a magistrate, presided, and after the Rev. R. Best and the Rev. G. Macgregor, of Farnworth, had spoken, Mr. Carvell Williams, who attended as one of a deputation from the society, delivered an address. It reviewed the ecclesiastical events of last session, in the light cast upon them by Mr. Disraeli's speech at Aylesbury, which showed that Conservatism was trying to make capital out of the Church, as it had often done before. He also described the proceedings at the Church Congress at Cambridge, to show that, not only were Churchmen still unable to agree upon a Church-rate compromise, but that they were full of dissatisfaction with the working of the Establishment. The Rev. W. H. Parkinson, of Rochdale, followed in a speech in which the political character and the wastefulness of the State Church were well brought out. Mr. Kearley, the Rev. Franklin Baker, Mr. Harwood (the ex-mayor), and other gentlemen also took part in the proceedings.

HEYWOOD.—Last year the society's friends held only a small private meeting to organise a committee, but this year they have had a tea-party on Thursday last, and, in spite of the wet, it was well attended. Mr. Williams and Mr. Kearley represented the society, and the Rev. Messrs. Duckley, Thomson, Miller, Storrer, and Brown, and Mr. J. K. Job were among the speakers, who interested the meeting until a late hour.

ASHTON.—A *soirée* was held in the Wesleyan New Connexion school on Friday evening, and was attended by a very respectable audience. After Mr. Williams had given an address, speeches were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Gordon, Green, and Cocker; Hugh Mason, Esq., the late mayor, and others. The Rev. J. Stokoe, the minister of the place, presided. The tone of all the speakers was of the most hopeful description.

PRESTON.—A capital *soirée* was held in Fishergate-schoolrooms, on Monday night, members of all denominations being present. Mr. Councillor Haslow presided, and besides Mr. Carvell Williams, the Rev. Messrs. Reed, Clapham and Slate (Independents), Rev. F. Bugby (Baptist), Rev. W. Squier (Unitarian), Rev. W. Boyden (Methodist Free Church), and Rev. R. Rendall (Swedenborgian), took part in the proceedings, as did Mr. Langley, of the *Preston Guardian*. The opposition of the Establishment party did good service last year, and the effect of it was evident at this meeting.

THE BRISTOL LIBERATION SOCIETY.

On Wednesday a public meeting of the Bristol Branch of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control was held at King-street Chapel School-room, the chair being taken by Mr. H. Humphries. There was a very good attendance, and among those present were the Revs. D. Thomas, J. Edwards, E. Probert, — Wassall, W. J. Cross, E. J. Hartland, D. Wassall (Bath), S. Hebditch, J. Webb (Shepton Mallet), F. Bosworth, J. Burder, R. W. Dale; Messrs. H. O. Wills, H. Cosham, E. S. Robinson, John Leonard, G. U. Leonard, T. G. Grundy, T. Waterman, Solomon Leonard, Spark Evans, W. Sommerville, C. Godwin, S. Morley, H. W. Ditchett, J. D. Weston, J. Allen (Shepton Mallet), &c. Letters of regret that they were unable to attend were read from the Revs. M. Dickie, G. Wood, and N. Hayercroft, after which

The CHAIRMAN said, in his introductory remarks, that when last he had the honour of presiding—he believed it was not at the anniversary, but one of the meetings of the Bristol branch of the Liberation Society—he did so from a sense of duty; and he certainly did feel great pleasure in the performance of that duty, but he assuredly was not prepared for the charges that were brought against him. They were certain charges of being the abettor of those who were the spoliators of the Church, and those who encouraged infidelity and the like. In his simplicity, he had been led to believe, in this liberty-loving country of Old England, that in any great question, and especially a question involving the spiritual interests of the people, discussion might be held without the infliction of pains and penalties; but unfortunately for him he had since discovered his mistake, and therefore with the best possible grace he must submit to the penalty. (Laughter.) There, however, he was for the second time; and, thank God! he was not ashamed of the cause for which they were met, nor for the position in which he stood. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He was, however, ashamed that some who were opposed to them on the question, and men, too, of education and decided piety, should think it impossible to discuss that great principle of the Church

and State with that calm deliberation and gentlemanly bearing which the importance of the subject demanded. (Applause.) After a few further observations the chairman called upon

Mr. T. WATERMAN to read the Treasurer's account from Nov., 1860, to Oct., 1861, inclusive:

The Rev. E. J. HARTLAND rose to move the first resolution—

That the meeting unfeignedly rejoices at the wide publicity lately given to the aims and principles of the society, at the interest which they have excited, and at the facilities now afforded for new exertions to commend them to the judgment of the community. That the meeting also expresses gratification that the Parliamentary measures in which the society is interested have, during the recent session, been supported by undiminished numbers, in the face of the most strenuous opposition which they have ever encountered.

After a few preliminary remarks, the rev. gentleman said that the latter part of the resolution expressed a very different opinion respecting the results of the last session of Parliament from that which was generally entertained in some high and important quarters of their country. It could not be at all unknown to this assembly that the advocates of religious establishments represented the parliamentary campaign of the Liberation Society during the last session of Parliament as one of signal defeat; and the ground on which they represented it thus was that the parliamentary measures of an ecclesiastical nature, which were either brought forward by the Liberation Society or supported by its friends, had been signally defeated. The speaker then proceeded to review the course of the ecclesiastical proceedings in the Houses of Parliament during the last session, with a view to show that such an opinion as that was altogether unfounded; and so far from being a defeated and broken-hearted and dispirited party, the very last session of Parliament afforded them abundant encouragement to go on. (Applause.)

Mr. S. MORLEY, of London, seconded the resolution at considerable length, combating the objections which had been urged by the opponents of the Liberation Society. He referred to several misrepresentations that had got abroad, and then proceeded to examine the state of affairs as at present exemplified in the practice of ministers of the Established Church. He believed that, generally speaking, in cathedral towns—Bristol might be an exception—where they found numerous places of worship connected with the Establishment, there was spiritual death, and a greater amount of immorality among the people than elsewhere. Having disclaimed the idea of the members of the Liberation Society being mere political Dissenters, Mr. Morley referred to his examination before the Bishop of London, who, he thought, had lent himself to a trick, by the manner in which he acted. He then spoke of the enormous revenues enjoyed by many of the clergy, as contrasted with the stipends of the majority of curates. The system of selling livings was adverted to, and its pernicious effects pointed out. Mr. Morley then alluded to the great differences of opinion within the Church of England, and made a passing remark upon the "Essays and Reviews," which, he said, advocated a system of free-thinking—they set aside the Scriptures, its miracles, and the doctrine of the atonement. The High Church, or Puseyite party, was spoken of, the speaker remarking that they could have little idea of the extent to which it prevailed in the rural parishes, and he did not know how those men in the Church could reconcile their practices with their engagements under the Act of Uniformity. Then, as regarded the Evangelical party in the Church—how the members of that party among the clergy could give their sanction to such a system, in connexion with the thousands of people who were drifting on to eternity, he could not conceive. Having quoted from the *Saturday Review*, and given other extracts in reference to the points he argued, Mr. Morley concluded a very lengthy speech by urging upon them to teach their children their principles of action in a right spirit, and to determine to stand up for what they believed to be right and true. He was warmly applauded throughout the delivery of his address.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. R. W. DALE (of Birmingham) then briefly referred to the views held by the late Rev. John Angell James, of Birmingham, and said his heart was true from its centre outwards to those views which they were that evening met to advocate. He then proposed the following resolution:—

That it is the deep conviction of this meeting that it is the duty of those who regard the interference of secular Government with matters of religion as a fruitful source of religious, of political, and of social evil, to devote themselves during the coming year to special efforts for the enforcement of their views, and more especially to awaken in the minds of Nonconformists, a sense of the responsibility which the possession of their distinctive principles involves.

He dwelt at some length upon the struggles and vicissitudes of the Nonconformists for the last two centuries. They had fought this fight as servants of the Lord Jesus Christ; and they believed they had learnt from the New Testament—the only authority in these religious matters—certain great principles and laws by which the Church of Christ ought to be governed, and because they had escaped from certain evil consequences which were brought upon their forefathers in the olden time that was no reason why they should give up the proclamation of those principles now. Those principles and doctrines which they conscientiously held had come to them from the New Testament, and it was at their peril if they refused to let those principles and those doctrines pass on to the other churches which required to be enlightened. He went on to rebut certain allegations and complaints made against Nonconformists by their opponents; and, in concluding a very able speech, urged upon his hearers to stick to their prin-

ciples, observing that their faith was in God, and if God was for them who could be against them? (Applause.)

The Rev. Mr. WASSALL, of Bath, seconded the resolution in an able speech, and it was then put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. HANDEL COSHAM, who was warmly applauded, moved the appointment of officers and a committee for the ensuing year, which he did in an excellent speech.

Mr. GODWIN seconded the motion, which was also carried.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting.

THE BICENTENARY OF NONCONFORMITY.

(From the *New York Independent*.)

Our Dissenting brethren in England are preparing to celebrate, with appropriate commemorative services and measures, the second centennial of the ejection of two thousand ministers from their livings by the Act of Uniformity. By that act such men as Richard Baxter, John Owen, Edward Calamy, Philip Henry, and scores of men of like gifts and graces, were forbidden to preach or to minister in public, because they refused to conform to certain usages of the Church of England which they deemed unscriptural, superstitious, sinful. As Philip Henry expresses it, "On the black Bartholomew, August 24, 1662, near upon two thousand Dissenting ministers of England were put to silence, and forbidden to preach the Gospel under severe penalties, because they would not, they durst not, sin against God." On August 24, 1663, he made this quaint entry in his diary: "This day thirty-two years I was born; this day twelvemonth I died; that fatal day to the godly, painful, faithful ministers of England, among whom I am not worthy to be numbered." Not England alone, but all Evangelical Christendom, owes its gratitude to those brave and worthy men who two hundred years ago endured poverty, imprisonment, exile, death, in defence of the rights of conscience.

We assure our brethren in England of the cordial co-operation of American Congregationalists, and indeed of Christians of all denominations in this country, in their efforts to honour the memory and to revive the spirit of the early martyrs for religious liberty. Doubtless many of the sons of New England will visit the home of Puritanism next August to unite with English Dissenters in commemorating names that belong to both countries.

STATEMENT AND APPEAL OF THE IRISH EVANGELICAL SOCIETY, AND CONGREGATIONAL HOME MISSION.

We have been requested to give insertion to the following:—

The committee of this society earnestly solicit the attention of the friends of Christ to the momentous work of Irish evangelisation, and the claims of this society, as one of the agencies for accomplishing it.

The churches of the British Isles have been always, and are now, emphatically, under God, the chief helpers and hope of the world. Increase their vitality, and the conversion of the world is furthered and hastened. Ireland, as an integral part of this kingdom, for its own sake and the world's, is entitled to earnest attention. Its population of nearly six millions, and its numerous sad wide-spread emigrants, are mostly, alas! in the service of the man of sin, whose priests and propagandists it prepares, for itself, for the army, the navy, the empire, the world. Its Protestantism is chiefly in alliance with the State, and requires, for its improvement and ultimate emancipation, the diffusion of free and self-sustained evangelism. And never were there such facilities and encouragements for such diffusion in Ireland as at present. The country, in its secular interests, has been elevated, and urged forward in the path of progress, by a higher Hand than man's. Peace prevails, and crime is greatly diminishing. Intercourse is everywhere promoted; education, in its higher and lower branches, is provided for and extended; the labourer can live, and the capitalist can succeed in his undertakings. Above all, God Himself is visiting and blessing the land. A spirit of inquiry, a sympathy with truth, a desire for salvation, a perception of the life and freedom of true religion, a tendency to union, and a hope of better days, are cheerfully increased; and invite God's people to a large extension of evangelistic agency and effort.

The committee of this society feel constrained to respond to such invitation, and to seize such facilities for Ireland's improvement. The Congregationalism of Britain no longer appeals on behalf of Ireland by two societies, but by one cordial and comprehensive organisation. The Irish Evangelical Society has long borne good fruit in Ireland. The Irish Congregational Home Mission was commenced at the suggestion of enlightened and generous Scotchmen, to develop Irish responsibility and liberality, and to secure proffered British help for Ireland, by means of Irish action and management. And now, happily, the two societies are one, by combining the energies and excellences of both. The constituency is to consist of ministers making an annual collection for the society, and of all persons subscribing half-a-guinea per annum, or five guineas at one time. The treasurer of the society is to be in England, and one of the secretaries in Ireland. An annual meeting is to be held in London, and a similar meeting in Dublin.

The society has twenty ministers and nineteen churches, twelve missionaries or readers, twenty-nine central stations, ninety-four other preaching places, twenty-one chapels, twenty-two Sunday-schools, and two day-schools. Generous offers of support have been made on both sides of the Channel, by subscriptions, some amounting to the noble sum of 1000. per annum. It is earnestly hoped that many in Great Britain and Ireland will be stimulated by these admirable examples. The pastors and deacons of churches are urgently solicited to assist in this good work by congregational collections, and by exhibiting the claims of Ireland, and

of this society. Our generous friends in Scotland, in the United Presbyterian and Free Churches, are respectfully and earnestly requested to continue their kind co-operation with a society that is wholly dependent on voluntary effort, and that seeks to do good in many places, where denominational aims and interests are impracticable, or unadvisable. The committee purpose to enlarge their operations, to prepare men by suitable training for mission-work, and to stimulate dependent places into activity and self-support. Surely the gold and the silver will not be wanting; the right men for working will be found; earnest and continued prayer to the Lord of the harvest will be offered, and Ireland will emerge out of her darkness and depression, to be more eminently than ever an island of saints, and a blessing to the world.

T. M. COOMBS, Treasurer, London.

J. G. MANLY, Secretary *pro tem.* of the Irish Division of the Committee, Dublin.

THOS. AVELING, Secretary *pro tem.* of the English Division of the Committee.

Congregational Library, Blomfield-street,
November 20, 1861.

A WESTMORELAND CHURCH-RATE CONTEST.—A recent Church-rate struggle at Dent, near Kendal, illustrates the increasing severity of the conflict between the supporters and the opponents of compulsory exactions for religious purposes. The rate was carried, on a poll, by 166 votes against 128, but that result was obtained only by means of great irregularities, and by the adoption of still more questionable methods. Instead of taking the votes according to the rating, the churchwardens took the rental of the inhabitants. An old assessment was also resorted to instead of the latest, and votes were received for the rate which should have been refused. That alone, however, would not have sufficed to carry the rate; but coercion and intimidation were freely employed, the landlords being induced to threaten their tenants with the loss of their farms if they did not support the rate. One man who had opposed the rate at the vestry meeting came to the meeting with tears in his eyes to poll five votes for the rate, under landlord compulsion. The recipients of coals and other gifts dispensed by the parish were openly warned that there would be no renewal of them to those who went against the rate. Carriages were also provided by the pro-rate party, whereas no appliances of the same sort were resorted to on the other side. The result is, a feeling of great bitterness on the part of the defeated party, who believe that they have been defrauded of a victory by unfair means.

CHURCH-RATES AT YSTRADGYNLAIS.—It is well known through the Principality that a long and severe Church-rate contest had been in this parish some short time ago, which lasted for many months, and ended in the triumph of the opponents of the rate. The object of the intended rate was to borrow money for building a new church from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, on security. Some sharp practices were played by the Church party in the course of the proceedings, such as putting the notice calling the vestry on the church door when going to church, and taking it off in coming out, that it might not be noticed. The rector, also, the Rev. T. Walters, refused the poll. An application for a mandamus from the Court of Queen's Bench being unsuccessful, the rate was abandoned. Last week, in pursuance of a notice put on the church door on the previous Sunday—which church is situated in a solitary place and thinly attended—a further attempt was made to levy a Church-rate to defray the expense of warming the new church, which is not yet completed. The meeting was attended by the rector, his sexton, and four other parishioners, one of whom was called from his work on the adjoining field, making a grand total of six persons in a very populous parish. No churchwarden was present; nor was any statement of expenditure or balance in hand given. One of the parishioners present gave his estimate of the cost of the warming apparatus he himself was going to prepare, at 35*l.* Some even of the select few present advised a subscription instead of a rate; but in case the collection should fail, it was resolved to make a rate. Surely the rector must consider his parishioners a very innocent set of dupes if he expects them to pay a rate said to be made in such an irregular way. —(From a Correspondent.)

REFUSALS TO BURY.—For the information of the English Churchmen and some other writers, we, on the part of Dissenters, disavow any wish to compel the clergy to violate either the laws of their Church, or the laws imposed upon them by their own consciences. Nor do we care to have the law, as regards the clergy, altered. Our remedy is as "extremely simple" as that of "A Country Parson" and a great deal more efficacious. Let other ministers of religion have the same right of officiating at burials in the parish churchyards as is now monopolised by episcopal ministers. Such a change will not only relieve the established clergy from all difficulty, but do an act of justice to a now proscribed class.—*The Liberator.*

THE REV. C. N. WODEHOUSE, late canon of Norwich, has just issued a second edition of his pamphlet, entitled "The Claims of Truth." This edition contains a letter from the Bishop of London, repudiating in strong though affectionate terms the charge against him in the first pamphlet that he spoke slightly in the House of Lords of the "scrupulous." His lordship further says:—"As to my 'holding up' yourself 'to contempt or ridicule,' such a thing, with the feelings I entertain towards you, was altogether impossible." Mr. Wodehouse observes in this edition of his pamphlet, that on resigning his preferment he met with little outward sympathy. "The High Church party viewed my retirement with complacency, as a

testimony to some of their views, forgetful, perhaps, of their own difficulties as to the Thirty-nine Articles and Homilies. The Evangelical party stood aloof, though many of them carrying their objections to the Prayer-Book much further than myself. A third party only censured me for being dissatisfied with the latitude which they assume to be justifiable in subscribing. Dissenters expressed little interest about a person who, along with his resignation, declared his unaltered preference for the National Church. My firm and fearless friend, Bishop Stanley, was gone to his rest, and, as I fully believe, to his reward; and friends like him, who will give an open and generous support to a falling man, are not to be much looked for in this world."

FATHER GAVAZZI AND THE TEMPORAL POWER OF THE POPE.—A letter from Florence says:—"Padre Gavazzi has just commenced a series of lectures ('Conferenze Storiche,' he calls them) against the Pope and his temporal power, in which he spares neither Pius nor his advisers; he is, indeed, a wonderful advocate, and can bring a flow of eloquence to bear on any subject, such as I have never heard equalled. We are told that Thomas Wharton used to boast that 'he had sung a king out of three kingdoms' by his 'Lillibullero,' and I think, when all is over, and the temporal power a thing of the past, Alessandro Gavazzi will be justified in saying that, by his preaching and lecturing, the Pope has been very much damaged in the eyes of Italy. The padre has now again subsided into the quiet-looking black-coated priest which he was two years since, ere he donned the red shirt, and grew the beard and moustache of the Garibaldino."

DISSIDENTS AT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.—Mr. William Johnson, B.A., the highly respected Master of Llandaff House Academy, in this town, on the passing of the act admitting Dissenters to degrees, took the degree of B.A. at Corpus Christi College, where he had been educated. On applying to that college to have his name put on the boards, in order that he might proceed to the degree of M.A., the application was refused, on the avowed ground that he was not a member of the Established Church. We rejoice to state, however, that a member of the Senate, of long standing and of the highest respectability, brought the case before the Seniority of Trinity College, and, by a unanimous vote, Mr. Johnson is admitted a member of that honourable society. Unless we had received our information from a reliable source, we could scarcely have believed that, in the present day, any college authorities would have adopted the course which appears to have been taken at Corpus; and most of our readers, we imagine, will consider the rebuke administered by the Seniors of Trinity well merited. —*Cambridge Independent.*

THE JOWETT CONTROVERSY has been raging fiercely at Oxford. Anonymous and signed circulars have been flying about the University. Mr. Bramley, of Magdalen College, who had stated in congregation that his faith had been undermined by Professor Jowett's lectures on the Greek language, has been invited to recant, or give greater explicitness to his charge, by a fellow-student, Mr. Duckworth, of Trinity. . . . Mr. Bramley declines to recant, and replies that "it is much easier to note a result than to analyse the process by which it was effected." An anonymous "Undergraduate" tells his sufferings in a way so similar that the public compassion confounds him with Mr. Bramley. From his unseen confessional he pours into the ear of the University his profound regret that Mr. Jowett's lectures in Greek had opened in his mind "new lines of thought,"—like a sudden chasm yawning in the flight,—which he found only leisure and sea air adequate to obliterate. This physical and spiritual invalid finds a satirist in some second undergraduate, who affirms that Mr. Mansel's lectures had thrown him into an abyss of doubt, from which Mr. Goldwin Smith's "Notes on Rational Religion" at length rescued him,—but not till his mental struggles had ensured his failure in the schools. He proposes to the University to take away all but 40*l.* of Mr. Mansel's salary, and to restore it by instalments as that gentleman's faith gradually deepens.—*Spectator.*

Religious Intelligence.

HOME MISSION CONFERENCE AT WORCESTER.

The spiritual destitution prevailing in many parts of this county has for some time past pressed heavily upon the minds and hearts of many of our ministers and people, and at the last meeting of the association this anxiety took a definite form, in the appointment of a committee who should make arrangements for a conference to be held in Worcester, to consider the spiritual condition of the county, and to devise some means for meeting its manifest wants. This conference was held in Angel-street Chapel, Worcester, on Thursday last, and was attended by about sixty ministers and representatives from the churches in the county. A public meeting followed in the evening. R. Padmore, Esq. M.P., presided both at the conference and at the public meeting. Samuel Morley, Esq., and the Rev. J. H. Wilson, of London, were also present. The proceedings commenced, at half-past ten o'clock, with singing, and prayer offered by the Rev. B. Roebuck.

The CHAIRMAN then stated the object of the meeting, and spoke of the terrible condition, morally and spiritually, of some parts of the county, and of the imperative duty devolving upon Christians to do their utmost to bring the influence of the

Gospel to bear upon those who are living as heathens in a land of Christian light and privilege.

The Rev. J. BARTLETT, of Worcester, then read a report which, at the request of the committee, he had prepared, and which was based upon information furnished by the ministers and deacons of the churches in the county. The impression produced by the facts reported was of the most solemn character. The deplorable ignorance, recklessness, and vice prevailing in different parts of the county seemed almost incredible, and the utter insufficiency of all existing agencies was made patent to all.

The Rev. J. RICHARDS, of Stourbridge, then addressed the meeting, and spoke of the peculiar features of his own neighbourhood, and especially of the great need for Christian effort in the villages near Stourbridge.

The Rev. D. K. SHOEBOOTHAM, of Dudley, spoke of the impossibility of reaching the great mass of the population without some extraordinary addition to the agency at present at work. Mr. Shoebotham stated that he believed there were from 20,000 to 25,000 persons in Dudley who attended no place of worship.

T. R. HILL, Esq., of Worcester, spoke of the special wants of the neighbourhood of Worcester, and urged upon the meeting the solemn obligation resting upon the churches in the presence of such facts as had been reported to them.

SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., of London, then addressed the meeting. He referred to the startling facts brought out in the report, and by the previous speakers—urged the special claims which those who are our neighbours have upon us—entreated the representatives of the churches present to unite heartily in some great movement for the improvement both of the churches and of the neighbourhoods in which those churches are located. Mr. Morley then referred to the new agency which had lately been introduced into other counties with such manifest advantage under the designation of "Lay Evangelists"—described the kind of agents employed, and gave some details of the manner and results of their working. He recommended this kind of agency as pre-eminently adapted to meet the special wants of Worcestershire as laid before the meeting. Mr. Morley also spoke of the importance of getting the members of our churches to feel the solemn obligation resting upon them, not only to support any agency that might be called forth, but also to seek by their own individual effort to bring men to the knowledge of the truths of salvation.

The Rev. J. H. WILSON, of London, addressed the meeting upon the importance of seeking a revival of true godliness in the churches as the best preparation for Christian work in the world. He described the kind of men needed for the work of Evangelists, and gave an interesting account of the success of such agents in other counties, especially in Somerset and Dorset.

After Mr. Wilson had spoken, a long discussion took place upon the suggestions which had been offered, in which several gentlemen took part, and in the course of which the question of commemorating the Bicentenary of 1662 by some special effort for the good of the county was fully considered.

The whole was summed up in three resolutions moved as one by T. R. HILL, Esq., and seconded by EDWARD EVANS, Esq., to the effect that a fund be at once originated for the support of a number of Evangelists in the county, and that a committee be appointed to arrange the details connected with the fund and to select districts and agents—the said fund to be considered as a commemoration of the year 1662.

Seven friends present promised the sum of 1,450*l.* to be paid in three years as a beginning for the said fund.

The conference closed at 2.30 with prayer offered by the Rev. JOHN MARSDEN, B.A., of Kidderminster.

The public meeting in the evening was also held in Angel-street Chapel, and was well attended. R. Padmore, Esq. M.P., again presided. After prayer by the Rev. J. Richards, of Stourbridge, the meeting was addressed by the Revs. J. Bartlett, D. K. Shoebotham, and J. Marsden, Samuel Morley, Esq., and Rev. J. H. Wilson. The sum promised amounted at the close of the evening to 1,700*l.*

The committee appointed at the conference met on Friday morning in the vestry at Angel-street Chapel, when T. R. Hill, Esq., was chosen treasurer, and the Rev. J. Bartlett secretary, to the committee, and it was determined to set ten Evangelists to work immediately in the neighbourhoods of Worcester, Dudley, Kidderminster, Stourbridge, and Bromsgrove. It was further resolved to make a special appeal to the Churches in the country on behalf of the fund, by deputation or otherwise, at the earliest possible date. The fund will, no doubt, be made worthy of the object. The 1,700*l.* already promised has been subscribed by fourteen persons; it is, therefore, confidently anticipated that a general application to the Churches will result in a very large addition to the above amount.

THEATRE SERVICES.—The preachers at the theatres on Sunday were as follows:—Pavilion, Whitechapel-road—Rev. W. Kennedy, M.A., of John Knox Church, Stepney; Standard, Shoreditch—Dr. Davis, Secretary of the Religious Tract Society; Sadlers' Wells (after-noon)—Rev. J. H. Millard, B.A., Maze-pond; evening, E. H. Bickersteth, M.A., Incumbent of Christ Church, Hampstead; Britania, Hoxton—Rev. J. Stoughton, of Kensington.—At Sadlers' Wells, Mr. Bickersteth preached an affectionate and earnest dis-

course from Prov. xvii. 17, "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." The theatre was crammed to the ceiling with an attentive audience.—At St. James's-Hall, the Rev. W. Brock, jun., of Hampstead, preached in the afternoon, and the Rev. W. Aveling, of Kingsland, in the evening.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES.—A friend of Evangelical effort having taken the Victoria Theatre for a period of three months for morning services, to be conducted by Mr. G. M. Murphy, the Surrey Chapel evangelist, a commencement was made last Sabbath evening, when upwards of a thousand working men assembled, and preserved the utmost attention while Mr. Murphy conducted the service, founded on John viii. 32.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON IN BETHNAL-GREEN.—The Bishop gave the first of a series of Advent sermons on Thursday night, in St. Philip's Church, Bethnal-green. This church is situated in a narrow street in the centre of perhaps the poorest population in London, crowded together behind Shoreditch Church. On this occasion the people continued to come in as they left their work, some without coats, some with their aprons fastened round their waist, and just as they had been working, up to the end of the sermon, to which they listened with the greatest attention and decorum.

ALBION CHAPEL, LONDON-WALL.—The Rev. Alexander Wallace, of Glasgow, has recently been appointed minister of this church.

THE REV. ALFRED J. MORRIS, of the Congregational Church, Holloway, has, we understand, accepted a unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Independent Church at Bowden, near Manchester. On Sunday morning last Mr. Morris preached for the last time in Holloway Chapel, and took an affecting leave of a church and congregation over whom he has presided for nearly twenty years. In the evening he was unable to do more than conduct the devotional services. Mr. Morris leaves Holloway amid the general regret of a flourishing church and congregation, who were bound to him by no ordinary ties of affection and esteem, and with whom he has maintained relations of unbroken harmony. His loss is in a measure shared by the Nonconformists of the entire metropolis.—Mr. Morris occupying, by universal consent, a foremost place among the pulpit celebrities of the day. His widely-circulated published discourses have, moreover, made his name known and honoured far beyond the boundaries of the denomination to which he belongs. The late pastor of the Holloway Congregational Church leaves for the north with a great reputation, which has been built up during many years of faithful ministrations, and by the assiduous cultivation of great mental powers that pre-eminently qualify him as a spiritual guide and instructor to thoughtful and intelligent men.

UNION CHAPEL, ISLINGTON.—This chapel having been closed for repairs and alterations, for a period of nearly five months, was re-opened on Friday week. The enlargement has been made chiefly at the pulpit end of the chapel, and the extra accommodation provided is for about 400 sittings. But the increased accommodation is not confined to the chapel. A new lecture-room, vestries, class-rooms, and chapel-keeper's offices, have been erected behind, and when these are finished the arrangements of the whole building will be very complete. On the day of re-opening, the Rev. H. Allon, the pastor, conducted the opening exercises, and the Rev. Norman M'Leod, D.D., of Glasgow, preached the morning sermon. In the evening, the devotions were led by the Rev. A. Raleigh, and the Rev. S. Martin preached from Philippians ii. 14-16, urging upon the church, with his own peculiar earnestness and tenderness, its enlarged responsibility, and its duties to the neighbourhood. On Sunday morning, Dec. 1st, the Rev. H. Allon, the pastor, preached from the words, "He shall make the place of his feet glorious," a sermon of great beauty and faithfulness. In the evening, after the opening exercises by the Rev. T. James, the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., preached to a most crowded congregation, from St. Luke's account of the Transfiguration, drawing from it lessons as to "Heaven and how to get there." The sermon was full of instruction and of practical power. It is stated that the cost of the alterations has been about 3,500*l.*, and that the congregation have already subscribed about 2,200*l.* towards that sum. The collections at the various opening services amounted to 217*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, leaving a debt of about 1,100*l.* still remaining.

UPPER NORWOOD.—A public meeting was held at Westow-hill School-room, Upper Norwood, on Monday week, to promote the opening of a new Congregational chapel. The meeting was presided over by G. J. Cockerell, Esq., Sheriff of London. A statement was made by the secretary of this movement, the Rev. B. Kent, of Lower Norwood, that the building called Anbyn's Church, opened by the present Archbishop of Canterbury, being offered for sale, had been purchased, with the freehold on which it stands, by the London Congregational Chapel Building Society, for the sum of 2,000*l.*, in order to increase the means of public worship in this populous and increasing vicinity. This amount was to be provided as follows:—The committee would give 250*l.* and lend 250*l.* without interest; and 1,500*l.* was to be raised by a mortgage on the building, which was to be met at the convenience of the congregation to be gathered to the church. It was also stated that plans had been obtained by the committee for the complete adaptation of this spacious edifice for the worship of God. In the first instance, it is proposed to adopt that portion of the design which will greatly improve its external appearance, and render the internal arrangements at

once convenient and attractive. It is estimated that these works will cost 1,000*l.*; and as soon as this sum shall be raised they will be completed, and the church opened for public worship. It was also stated that 402*l.* had been subscribed towards this object. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Dr. Ferguson, Rev. C. Gilbert, Rev. B. Kent, Rev. J. H. Wilson, J. Broomhall, Esq., and H. Mason, Esq. An additional 125*l.* was announced during the meeting. Much interest was excited, and it was resolved to have a social tea-meeting at an early day to promote the accomplishment of this object.

NORLAND CHAPEL, NOTTING-HILL.—The second anniversary of this chapel was celebrated last week. On Sunday, the 24th of November, two sermons, special to the occasion, were preached by the Rev. John Stent, the minister, and collections made in aid of the general funds of the chapel. On Wednesday, the 27th, sermons were preached by the Rev. Dr. Hamilton and the Rev. Samuel Martin. In the afternoon a public meeting was held, when effective addresses were delivered by the Revs. T. Lessey, John Bigwood, John Clifford, B.A., A. Johnson, R. Finch, and William Miall. A report was presented to the meeting, which showed that during the year the congregation and the Church have considerably increased. The gallery has been opened and an organ introduced. The Sunday schools have increased to 250 children. A day-school was opened in June, which already numbers 150 children, and an efficient evening-school for gypsies has been conducted during the winter months, and is now in progress with most pleasing results. Between the public services about one hundred persons sat down to a cold collation, which was both elegant and sumptuous, and nearly 300 persons assembled to tea. The large school-room, which will accommodate 500 as easily as 300, was tastefully decorated, and the whole of the proceedings passed off very successfully. The whole of the provisions for the dinner and the tea were given by the friends of the chapel. A further service was held on the 9th inst., when the Rev. William Landels delivered his lecture on John Knox. The proceeds of the various collections amounted to 50*l.* Contributions were also made towards the debt which, with sums paid in at a previous meeting and a promise of 25*l.*, amounted to 110*l.*

CHIPPENHAM.—The fortieth anniversary of the Rev. B. Rees's ministry, at the Tabernacle, Chippenham, was held on Wednesday, when the congregation commenced a subscription to make some provision for their pastor's declining years. Upwards of 115*l.* was raised before the close of the meeting.

HARDEN, LANCASHIRE.—Mr. M. A. Wilkinson, of Garnett-street, Leeds-road, Bradford, has received and accepted a unanimous call from the church and congregation worshipping at the Independent chapel, Harden, near Bingley. They have not hitherto had a stated minister at the above place of worship.

LIVERPOOL.—NEW CHAPEL.—A very eligible piece of ground, at the corner of Norwood-grove, in West Derby-road, Liverpool, has been secured, and is now being prepared for the erection of a new Independent chapel and schools. The chapel will provide accommodation for 900 adults, and the schools for 400 children. The style of the buildings will be decorated Gothic, and the cost, including land, about 7,000*l.* This effort has been undertaken by a few of the members of the church in Everton-crescent, of which the Rev. John Kelly is minister; and we are happy to hear their appeal has been liberally responded to by the public.

WELDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—The Church and congregation connected with the above place of worship having erected a new vestry, it was opened on Monday, the 18th of November, when a discourse was delivered in the afternoon by the Rev. T. Toller, of Kettering. In the evening there was a public meeting, at which Mr. W. Irving, of Uppingham, presided, and addresses were delivered by Revs. J. Mursell, of Kettering; T. Lord, of Brigstock, and other ministers. Between the services an excellent tea was provided by the ladies of the congregation, of which a goodly number partook. The collections were good.

SUNDERLAND.—On Tuesday evening, the friends of the Congregational Chapel, Fawcett-street, Sunderland, celebrated the tenth anniversary of its opening by a *soirée* of a very interesting and successful character. About 360 sat down to an excellent tea in the lecture-room. Afterwards a much larger company was assembled in the chapel. The pastor (Rev. G. C. Maitland) occupied the chair, and alluded to the fact that ten years had elapsed since the opening of the church in which they were assembled, and that they had abundant reason to celebrate the event with much joy and thankfulness. They continued to be a happy, united, and prosperous people. The choir, which consisted of upwards of forty voices, then performed a number of pieces in such a manner as to excite the admiration of all present. The proceeds of the services amounted to upwards of 30*l.*—*Abridged from the Sunderland Herald.*

THE ASYLUM FOR FATHERLESS CHILDREN, REEDHAM, NEAR CROYDON.—Two sermons were preached on behalf of this valuable charity on Sabbath-day, November 17, at Hare-court Chapel, Canonbury, by the Rev. A. Raleigh, when 69*l.* were collected. The congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. E. Mannering, at Bishopsgate Chapel, also kindly and liberally responded to two appeals made for the Asylum, on Sabbath-day, November 24, by their pastor and the Rev. A. Raleigh. There are at present 194 children in the house, and 96 candidates for admission in January next, of whom ten only can be received. Help is urgently needed, and

earnestly sought, for an institution based on such liberal principles as those on which the Asylum for Fatherless Children is founded, admitting all without respect of creed, and although its teachings are strictly Scriptural, yet they are never attended with the enforcement of any sectarian opinions on its inmates.

PALACE OF KING CHARLES II., NEWMARKET.—For nearly two years efforts have been made by the Congregational Church in Newmarket to secure a suitable site for the erection of a new chapel. Since the settlement of the Rev. C. Bateman the congregation has considerably increased, besides which the present building, being small and badly situated, is not likely to be frequented under any circumstances by the mass of non-worshippers which every town contains, and especially the metropolis of horse-racing—Newmarket. Within the last few months the palace in the centre of High-street (long resided in by King Charles II. and probably built for his accommodation) was offered for sale and purchased by two zealous Dissenters. The whole property, with the exception of a piece of surplus land, is at present held by these gentlemen, in the hope that sufficient support may be secured to carry out so blessed a transformation as that of turning the palace of a licentious and arbitrary persecutor into a house for God. On the 4th inst., a social tea-meeting was held under the presidency of the pastor to receive the Rev. J. C. Gallaway, M.A., the secretary of the English Congregational Chapel Building Society, who had come down to inspect the property and confer with the friends on the subject. After a brief report of past proceedings, Mr. Gallaway assured the meeting of the warm interest which the committee of the society he represented already felt in the effort, and held out the prospect of their support to the full extent of the means at their disposal. The meeting expressed their approval of the undertaking by a unanimous vote. Several liberal subscriptions are promised in the town and neighbourhood, and more than one unsolicited donation from large-hearted Christians at a distance have testified to the interest with which this good work is likely to be everywhere regarded. The success of this effort would be an appropriate commemoration of the Bicentenary of the Ejection.

GREAT GEORGE-STREET CHAPEL, SALFORD.—EXTINCTION OF THE DEBT.—An interesting tea-meeting was held on Wednesday evening in the school-room of the Baptist Chapel, Great George-street, Salford, to celebrate the extinction of all debts connected with that chapel. From a report read by Mr. F. W. Popplewell, secretary of the church, it appears that the chapel was built during the pastorate of the Rev. Henry Dunckley, M.A. The foundation stone was laid by Henry Keneall, Esq., on the 29th of May, 1851; and the edifice was opened on the 21st October, 1852. The total cost, including lighting, heating, furniture, &c., was 2,998*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* Ever since that year, effort after effort has been made to get the chapel thoroughly free from debt; but until this week the congregation had not the pleasure of being able to say, "We are quite free." It was announced, however, at the meeting, that not only was the chapel the property of the church, but that all debts of the church were extinguished, and that there was every probability that, for the future, the congregation would be thoroughly self-supporting. During the past two years, under the pastorate of the Rev. S. Borton Brown, B.A., 800*l.* had been raised and collected towards the debt. The weekly offering system had been tested, and found very useful; a ladies' committee had been in active and successful operation; and a general debt committee had worked vigorously in securing most liberal donations. The meeting was well attended. The chair was taken by the pastor. Amongst the numerous speakers, we observed the Rev. Alex. McLaren, B.A., Rev. W. G. Fifield (of Blackburn), Mr. W. Allison, Mr. Prescott, Mr. Brown, sen., Mr. C. Bury, treasurer of the debt committee, and Mr. Charles Wardley, treasurer of the church. Besides these, various friends connected with the congregation, expressed their great gratification at the glad event which had called them together; and the choir, as an expression of their interest in the affair, favoured the meeting with the "Te Deum."—*Salford Weekly News.*

BICENTENARY CHURCH AT DARLINGTON.—On Thursday last the foundation-stone of a new Congregational church was laid at Darlington by Henry Brown, Esq., of Bradford, the first of numerous Congregational churches to be erected to commemorate the ejection of the 2,000 nonconforming divines in 1662, and the occasion was more than usually interesting. After singing and prayer the Rev. H. Kendall, the pastor of the church, presented to Mr. Brown, with an appropriate address, a silver trowel, suitably inscribed, and a rosewood mallet. Mr. Brown then, having adjusted the stone, delivered a forcible address on the principles of Congregationalism, and commended the erection of this place of worship, highly complimenting the design. A bottle was deposited in a cavity in the stone containing tracings of the ground and gallery plans, and of the interior and exterior perspective views of the building, together with a copy of the *Darlington and Stockton Times* of the preceding Saturday, of the *Leeds Mercury* of the day, the current coins of the realm, and a record, of which the following is a copy:—

On this site Bethel Chapel was built in 1811 and 1812, by the denomination of Protestant Dissenters called "Independents," or "Congregationalists."

Having at length become too small, the taking down was commenced November 5th, 1861, and this foundation-stone of a new building was laid 5th of December

following, by Henry Brown, Esq., Bradford. The Congregational Chapel Building Society's Committee having, at their meeting held in this town in October last, determined to raise a special fund to promote the erection of one hundred new places of worship, in commemoration of the ejection of the 2,000 Nonconformist divines in England, and having voted the first grant from that fund towards this building, thus constituting it the first of the Memorial Buildings, it is to be called the "Congregational Bicentenary Memorial Church," and is to be opened (if possible) on the bicentenary anniversary of that event, August 24, 1862. The church is planned to hold 600 adults and 100 children, and is designed in the decorated Gothic or middle pointed style, with a spire one hundred feet high. Tracings of the ground and gallery plans, and of the exterior and interior views, are deposited along with this record for the gratification of future antiquarians. Total cost of the building, including warming, ventilating and lighting, and allowing for value of old materials re-used, 1,900*l*. Henry Kendall, pastor and chairman; Andrew Common, treasurer; William Forster, honorary secretary. Committee; Peter Digney, John Dodds, Samuel Etton, Samuel G. Fisher, David Graham, James Harris, Crawford Marley, John Morrell, William MacPeggan, George Pattison, James P. Pritchett, James Tate, Thomas Taylor, William Wilson.—Darlington, December 5th, 1861.

A handsome polished zinc plate containing the following inscription was then placed over the bottle, and screwed down by the pastor and three of the deacons:—

Foundation-stone of the new Congregational bicentenary memorial church, laid December 5th, 1861, by Henry Brown, Esq., of Bradford, Rev. H. Kendall, pastor; Messrs. Pritchett and Son, architects; Mr. T. Bateson, builder.

Addresses were delivered by the Rev. H. Kendall, Rev. S. Goodall, of Durham; and Mr. S. S. Hodgson, of Sunderland; and after the doxology the assembly broke up. In the evening a public tea-meeting was held in the Mechanics'-hall, when addresses were delivered by various ministers and friends, under the presidency of Henry Brown, Esq.

OPENING OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL AND SCHOOLS, STOWMARKET.—The new and commodious chapel and school-rooms erected by the Congregationalists of this town, were opened by a series of special services last month. The foundation-stone was laid in April last by J. A. Webb, Esq., and on the 15th of November the new building was occupied for the first time, a special prayer-meeting having been held on the previous day at the place temporarily occupied while the chapel was being erected, on which occasion the Rev. T. Binney, of London, delivered an address on Prayer. On the following day there was a crowded attendance in the new chapel. The devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. J. Reeve, the pastor, and Mr. Binney, after which the Rev. J. Spence, D.D., of London, delivered a very impressive discourse founded on Heb. i. 10—12. At two o'clock nearly 300 sat down to dinner in the adjoining school-room, L. Webb, Esq., presiding. After the cloth was removed, and an expression of loyal sentiment, addresses were delivered by Messrs. Binney, Spence, Harrison, Reeve, and others. In the evening the Rev. J. C. Harrison, of Camden-town, preached a most impressive sermon from John vi. 68, 69. This concluded the services of the day. The collections amounted to 20*l*. 13*s*. 1*d*. On Sunday, November 17th, the minister of the place having led the devotional exercises, the Rev. E. Jones preached. In the afternoon the Rev. J. Curwen, of Plaistow, preached, and the Rev. J. Raven, of Ipswich, in the evening. The chapel was well filled in the morning, but in the afternoon and evening every available position was occupied even to the stairs and floor of the platform. On the following Monday afternoon a very interesting service for the children of the Stowmarket, Cornby, Haughley, Stowupland, and Stonham Schools, numbering some 700, was held in the chapel, and was conducted by the Rev. J. Curwen, of Plaistow. The children had each a bun given them on leaving the chapel, and the teachers, to the number of eighty, took tea in the school-room, and received a short address from Mr. Curwen. In the evening the Rev. J. Curwen addressed a large assembly of parents. On Tuesday evening 700 people took tea in the school-room, after which the Rev. C. Elven, of Bury, preached to a most crowded congregation from Isaiah xl. 4. The total amount of the collections at these services towards the building fund amounted to 283*l*. 6*s*. 1*½d*. There has been expended in the erection of the building, for additional ground and cottages removed, 650*l*.; contract, 3,333*l*.; extras, fees, &c., 310*l*.; fittings inside chapel, school-room, and class-rooms, with outside fence, 250*l*.; making a total of 4,543*l*., towards which there has been received—subscriptions, 2,490*l*. 2*s*. 6*d*.; special weekly subscriptions, 428*l*. 7*s*. 7*½d*.; collections at opening, 283*l*. 6*s*. 1*½d*.; making a total of 3,191*l*. 15*s*. 2*½d*.; leaving a balance of 1,341*l*. 4*s*. 9*½d*., which it is hoped may be cleared off in the course of the next twelve months. The chapel contains 1,054 sittings—560 on the ground floor, 328 in the galleries, and 166 for children, all in open benches of stained deal, with carved tracery panels in the bench ends.

The Episcopal church at Fairfax Court-house, in Virginia, has been destroyed by the Confederate and Federal troops. The church was one of the oldest in the United States. It was built by Lord Fairfax, and the pulpit and altar were constructed in England. It was in this church and at this altar that George Washington was married.

Correspondence.

THE BICENTENARY CELEBRATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I have been, it may be unreasonably, disappointed with the somewhat chaotic proceedings of the Bicentenary Conference. One suggestion I venture to make, to which, I think, great importance may be justly attached. Let us not be carried into the summer before we act on the public mind. People will then have other things to amuse them than to listen to us. Valuable as it may be, let us not be content with pastoral action in this town and that; but let the movement be inaugurated with a dignity, calmness, and power, that may represent the denomination.

Cannot a large metropolitan hall be secured in the first two months of the year, and weekly lectures on the great ecclesiastical questions of the times be delivered by such ministers as Drs. Vaughan, Alexander, and Halley, the Revs. Messrs. Binney, Newman Hall, Allon, Stoughton, Mellor, and Martin? It would be very appropriate that the first meeting should be one of solemn prayer, and that all the London pastors should throw their influence into the demonstration.

The great question entailed upon us by the Middle Ages is that of the hour. The opinions we enunciate should be worthy of us, and at the first should be uttered by men who would realise the responsibility of their representative character, and will not merely tell us past history, but form the vanguard to shed light on the Church perplexities of our era. These weekly lectures may be widely circulated. They will guide pastors more or less throughout the kingdom and powerfully help to form public opinion generally.

It is, moreover, supremely important that while a conflict is waging within the Establishment, Nonconformists should offer a testimony in such a spirit as may draw towards them the sympathies of Churchmen who are with them on the evils of this Church and State connection. It must be our aim to adopt such a tone as that of Dr. Vaughan in Birmingham, and to let it appear that our supreme desire is the cause of truth, and that we are more Christians and Englishmen than sectaries.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Dec. 6, 1861.

G.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I should think that the vicar of Carshalton who resigned "his living" in 1689 was a Jacobite, who would not pray for King William. If he were, your correspondent might look a long time for him in "Brook's Lives of the Puritans." Mr. Barrett wishes "his name to be enshrined in your columns" as "a worthy Nonconformist." As it was an old joke among the Nonconformists that Jacob's name was changed into Israel, lest the "peculiar people" should be called Jacobites, I do not think that they would like to see "The Rev. Thomas Bradley and Elizabeth his wife" called, like themselves, Nonconformists.

Yours truly,

ROBERT HALLEY.

New College, Dec. 6.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you allow me a small space in an early number of the *Nonconformist* for the purpose of suggesting that the Literary Memorial of Nonconformity, which was last week proposed by Dr. Halley, should be published in sufficient time for its facts to be studied and mastered before the 24th of August, 1862. If this be done, ministers will be in a much better position for making their addresses on the above-named day effective, as both they and their hearers will be in possession of some striking facts which they otherwise will be ignorant of. Let Nonconformists be but united and unflinching in the defence of their principles, and they must prevail, because their principles are truth.

A CONSTANT READER.

Fenstanton, Dec. 5th, 1861.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND THE BICENTENARY CELEBRATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In the deliberations of the conference at the Congregational Library, reported in the *Nonconformist* of this date, I did not observe any special reference to Sunday schools. It strikes me that much might be done by the teachers to illustrate the grand principles of religious freedom by that notable event called "Black Bartholomews."

I would, therefore, suggest that a recommendation from the heads of each denomination be forwarded to the superintendents of all our Sunday schools to give one or more addresses to the scholars on this remarkable event; and this effort might be accompanied by presenting each child with an appropriate little book prepared for the purpose—illustrated if practicable—containing some of the stirring incidents of the case, and the principles which constrained those "noble 2,000" to take joyfully the spoiling of their homes.

If this effort was carried out, the following would be amongst the results, viz.:

1st. The teachers would be brought into closer contact with the true character of Christ's kingdom, and the danger of all State interference.

2nd. The exciting events connected with the expulsion of these godly men from their livings would naturally lead the children to inquire why they made such a stand at such a cost.

3rd. These particulars would be carried home by the children, and there retailed to their parents, and this again would be followed up by the perusal of the little book which had been given them at school.

Yours, &c.,

THOMAS CRAMP.

East Grinstead, Dec. 5th, 1861.

THE SYDENHAM PUBLIC HALL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In the fewest possible words I wish to say that your correspondent yesterday has not confirmed, nor corrected, the statement of the *Nonconformist* last week, namely, that our Public Hall and British Schools are the result of the combined agency of "all parties liberally affected." Park Chapel had a full share in originating them, to its especial honour, doubtless, it

was told you, all circumstances considered; but no one in connexion with Park Chapel—if to any one of these you owe your information—could be so selfish as to wish to monopolise the credit of so beneficial and general an enterprise. This explanation, Mr. Editor, being of some local importance, I trust you will do me the favour to insert it.

ONE OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS.

Sydenham, Dec. 5, 1861.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS FOR THE POOR.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Please allow me to draw your attention to the subject of Christmas dinners for the poor surrounding our various churches. A pulpit notice would ensure contributions in every congregation, and a committee, or the pastor and deacons, as at the Rev. J. C. Harrison's, Park Chapel, Rev. J. Fleming's, Kentish-town, and other churches, appointed to receive the contributions and distribute tickets to the destitute and hard-striving poor. Eighty dinners were thus provided by one church last year. How much the thought of having given to others will add to our own enjoyment on Christmas-day next! Your kind appeal in behalf of this object will be greatly beneficial.

Yours respectfully,

WARREN HALL.

120, Camden-road-villas, Dec. 4, 1861.

THE EDUCATION CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I wish to correct one or two mistakes which occur in your report of the proceedings of the above conference in relation to the resolution on charitable endowments. Your report states that the resolution was passed without a division, whereas, in fact, the amendment was only lost by a trifling majority. My first impression was that the amendment was carried. You also state that "Mr. Hinton defended the resolution as it stood." Whereas, in fact, Mr. Hinton suggested the amendment, and Sir Morton Peto most considerably would have accepted it instead of the original resolution if his seconder would have given way.

I deeply regret that the Educational Conference, in passing a resolution to utilise charitable endowments which are not left for education, should have deviated from its own peculiar province; and I confidently hope that many gentlemen, on a review of the question, will see the inconsistency of the position in which they have placed themselves—an inconsistency well pointed out in a *Times* leader on the question. There can be no doubt but that voluntary educationists entirely disapprove of education as it is proposed to be administered by the Charity Commissioners, leaning as it does to the interests of the Established Church. Where, then, is the justice of proposing that charitable endowments, not educational, should be utilised for purposes of education? Many of these endowments are Dissenting in their origin and history, and were left by men who were conscientiously opposed to the National Church of these realms.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

E. H. DELF.

Coventry, Dec. 9, 1861.

WAR WITH AMERICA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Unless God in his mercy avert the calamity, the two leading Protestant and missionary Powers of the world will be hurling destruction at each other by Christmas—the festival of Him who came to bring "peace on earth and good-will to men."

Hot-headed determination on one side to avenge an insult, almost before ascertaining that it was intended, and on the other side, high-handed resolve to justify the wrong which has been committed, appear to render an accommodation, humanly speaking, hopeless. To those who reflect what war is,—what it would be between two such Powers,—what complications would inevitably arise out of it,—what lavish expenditure of treasure and waste of human blood, destruction of commerce and stoppage of manufactures and their attendant privations; what arrest of civilisation, human progress, and spread of the Gospel must result;—to such I put the question:—Would not such a conflict fill our mutual enemies with rejoicing, make fiends laugh and angels weep? The imminence of the peril, placing it apparently beyond human reach, suggests that it is *speciality* a matter for prayer.

Prayer is the voice of helplessness.

The earnest cry of deep distress.

Let our cry be uttered in this spirit, like the helpless monarch of old, "neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon Thee" (2 Chron. xx. 12). That our praying friends are uninfluential should not discourage them, for,—

Frail art thou, O man, as a bubble on the breaker,
Yet thy hand can touch a lever that may move the world,
For man may take for his ally the King that ruleth kings.

That they be few should not daunt them, for we read in the inspired record that one man stood in the breach successfully for Israel (Psalm cvi. 23), and that only one such, could he have been found, would have saved Jerusalem (Ezek. xxii. 30).

I am Sir, yours faithfully,

BENJAMIN SCOTT.

London, Dec. 10, 1861.

The bird show which has just been held in Southampton is the largest ever known in England. Every British bird, excepting the cuckoo, was exhibited.

The boa constrictor at the Garden of Plants, Paris, which swallowed its blanket some time ago, and disgorged it about a month afterwards, has just died, owing, as supposed, to its having retained so indigestible a mass such a length of time in its body.

In these days of inflammable ladies, we (*Athenæum*) shall, perhaps, render good service by giving publicity to the discovery recently made by a French chemist, that muslin, lace, and all descriptions of light stuffs may be rendered fireproof by steeping them in starch mixed with half its weight of carbonate of lime, or, as it is commonly called, Spanish chalk.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The latest dates from New York are to Nov. 26.

THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT DAVIS.

President Davis has delivered his message to the Confederate Congress. It is most determined in tone, and states that after seven months the Federals have failed to extend their occupancy of Southern soil, and at many points have been driven to act on the defensive. The message announces that the military means and the financial condition of the Confederates are stronger now than at the commencement of the struggle. It praises the people of Missouri, and defends the occupancy of Kentucky. The Confederate financial system is stated to have worked well, and to promise good results for the future. "The system of issuing Treasury notes," continues the message, "has fully answered the expectations of the Confederates, and if they husband their means and make judicious use of their resources, it would be difficult to fix a limit to the period during which the Confederates will be able to carry on the war against the Federals. The reconstruction of the Union, which the Federals seek to effect by force of arms, has become more and more palpably impossible. The causes which induced the separation not only remain in full force, but have been strengthened. The Confederates shrink with aversion from the bare idea of renewing connection with the North. The South will be content to live at peace with the North, but the separation is final. The South will accept no alternative." President Davis then informs the Congress that Messrs. Slidell and Mason, commissioned to represent the Confederacy abroad, had been seized while under the protection and within the dominion of a neutral nation, and says:—"The claim of the United States to seize them in the streets of London would have been as well founded as the seizure on board the Trent. Had they been malefactors their arrest could not have taken place on board British ships, except according to the law provided for the extradition of criminals. The Confederates asked no aid from foreign Powers, but perhaps had a right to inquire if the European doctrine that the blockade to be binding must be effective was to be generally applied, or only in particular cases. Evidence will be laid before the European Governments of the total inefficiency of the blockade."

BOMBARDMENT OF PENSACOLA.

The Southern journals announce that Colonel Brown opened fire from Fort Pickens on Pensacola on the 19th inst. The Federal steamers Niagara and Colorado took part in the bombardment, but after some time were obliged to haul off, having been disabled by the fire from Fort Macrae. The Pensacola navy yard was three times on fire. The particulars, although meagre and derived from Southern sources, are considered in Washington to be favourable to the Federals.

A despatch from Washington, dated Nov. 26, says:—"From information received to-day from the War Department, it is believed that the fire of Fort Pickens has destroyed the Pensacola Navy-yard."

THE SLAVERY QUESTION.

The *Evening Post* states that Mr. Cameron, Secretary of War, in his report from the War Department to Congress, will take strong ground in favour of the emancipation of the slaves belonging to the rebels.

Mr. Smith, Federal Secretary of the Interior, has disavowed the policy endorsed by Mr. Cameron, Secretary of War, of putting arms into the hands of the slaves, declaring that such is not the policy of the Federal Administration.

General Halleck has issued a proclamation, notifying that no more fugitive slaves will be allowed to enter the Federal camp, as they have carried valuable information to the enemy.

On this subject Mr. Russell says:—

The division in the Cabinet in reference to the treatment of fugitive and captured slaves has now reached such a point that Secretary Cameron does not hesitate to lay down instructions to military commanders which are opposed by his colleagues. These differences were openly stated the other night at a quasi-public and semi-official supper to Mr. Prentice—the Sydney Smith of American journalists, — who a paper, the *Louisville Journal*, has done good service to the Federal cause; and when Mr. Cameron expressed his opinion that the negroes should be rendered serviceable by putting arms in their hands, Mr. Smith, Secretary for the Home Department, declared his colleague's sentiments were opposed to the policy of the Administration. Upon the most important question which can arise—the very base of all adjustment—the Government of the United States has no fixed policy, and confines itself to vague generalities in order to please both parties, while its officers act on different principles in different States, and the Secretary of War issues instructions to one General which are counteracted by the proceedings of another. General Halleck, the new Commander of the Western troops, has issued orders, that no fugitive slaves should be allowed to enter the lines under any pretence. At Fortress Monroe they are cheerfully received. At Port Royal their presence is encouraged and their services are freely used in the works. At Boston a mass meeting of Germans has approved Fremont's proclamation and policy, and others in different places have done the same.

FEDERAL FINANCE.

The commercial advices from New York state that the speedy approach of financial difficulties was now becoming a subject of general anticipation. Although, until the closing of the canals from frost, the shipments of grain would continue sufficiently active to prevent the full pressure of the situation

from being felt, the advance in the rate of exchange to 109½ had created much alarm, the banks, weighted with their present and prospective liabilities for loans to the Government, being especially sensitive to any adverse movement. As the feeling was thus anxious, while the banks were in expectation probably of a favourable reply to their proposal, which was brought by the last steamer to some of the principal London bankers, for a large advance on the deposit of American securities, the consternation to ensue when it shall be found not only that not a shilling can be obtained in that way, but also that the settlement of the Trent question will not be made dependent on "protracted negotiations," may be very considerable. Of the total loan of 30,000,000, to be supplied by these establishments to the Government, the proportion already paid was 16,000,000, of which sum the public had, up to the latest date, taken only 7,110,000, leaving the banks with 8,890,000 on hand, and 14,000,000 additional to be taken and provided for in the course of a few weeks.—*Times*.

MR. RUSSELL'S LETTER.

The following paragraphs are from Mr. Russell's last letter:—

It is reported to me to-day that General Blenker, the idol of the Germans, has resigned or intends to do so. That event would cause trouble and dissatisfaction. It is obvious that a large army is going into winter quarters. Long ranges of stabling, sheds for stores, and wooden barracks are rising up on both sides of the river and around the capital. The prospect is by no means agreeable to many thousands of soldiers. Volunteers are impatient of standing camps and campaigning of this sort. The pay and the distress at home are inducements to remain in order to remit money to their families, which they are doing very largely. Among the Confederates the same repugnance to an inactive hibernation exists doubtless to a greater degree. From Beaufort there is nothing new. The negroes have, in some instances, destroyed their master's property, but there is reason to believe that great mass of them remained quietly in their houses, and are now working in the fields as usual. The "Unionists" have not yet appeared to hail the conquerors. The white population have gone off, leaving all their worldly goods behind them. The accounts of what took place and what was seen when the Federalists landed ought to make their politicians entertain some doubts respecting their theories, or the success of this novel process of evolving friendly feeling. Still the work is to go on. The narrow inlets will be all blocked up, and the great ports narrowly watched. Cotton is to be collected and ginned at Beaufort, and the negroes will resume the picking under the eye of their new masters. There they are welcomed, and their labour is sought after. But it is difficult to see how the United States authorities can retain them, as there is no proof they were employed by their masters in hostile works.

The Mississippi flotilla and expedition, which were in a state of suspended animation, have revived once more, under the care of Captain Foote, of the United States Navy, and seven gunboats, of fifteen guns each, and twenty-eight mortar ketches, are nearly ready for the water. It will be difficult to manage these vessels in the current, and the river is low at this period of the year, but the foliage has disappeared from the woods on the banks. If the expedition reaches Memphis there may be well-founded apprehensions for New Orleans.

Although the accounts of destitution in the South are exaggerated, there is no doubt they are ill provided in many points, and will be sorely tried in the next four months. The Richmond papers some time ago stated that on a calculated expenditure of 300,000,000 dollars there was a deficiency of 175,000,000, notwithstanding all Mr. Memminger's efforts and the wholesale manufacture of "shin plasters." Only one-half of the Confederate loan has been taken, and the cotton bonds under present circumstances are valueless. In nearly every contest with the Confederates it has been remarked that their arms are very bad; indeed, they fight at every disadvantage—fowling-pieces and flint locks opposed to sword bayoneted Enfield and Springfield muskets.

The winter has suddenly come upon us. Captain Lyons, of Her Majesty's ship *Racer*, is here and will sail with despatches for the British Consul at Charleston on Wednesday.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Secretary of War has notified to the Governor of Maine that an officer will immediately be appointed to report on the sea-coast defences of that State.

The Federal troops are reported to be in full possession of Accomac, Northampton county, on the eastern shore of Virginia.

Governor Jackson and the State Legislature of Missouri have passed a secession ordinance.

Twenty-five vessels which are to be sunk at the entrance of a Southern harbour have sailed laden with stones.

The Union men of North Carolina have established a provisional State Government at Hatteras.

The Confederates have burnt Warsaw, Missouri, in order to prevent the Federals making winter quarters there.

General McClellan reviewed 50,000 men at Washington on the 20th inst., being the largest body of troops ever reviewed on the American continent.

Mr. George Francis Train has addressed a letter from London to the *New York Herald*, declaring that a number of vessels are fitting out at English ports with ammunition for the South. He makes a violent attack on the British Government, and declares that England's neutrality is contemptible.

The Confederate Congress has passed a resolution for removing the seat of Government from Richmond to Nashville.

General Price is again reported to have crossed the Osage River, and to be advancing on Osceola.

Three Confederate officers and seven cannons have been captured on the eastern shore of Virginia.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York*

Herald estimates that the requirements of the Federal Government during next year will make it necessary to ask Congress for an appropriation to the amount of 1,060,000,000 dols. (220 millions sterling).

According to the *Evening Post* the Secretary of the Treasury will recommend increased duties on woollens, iron, and sugar.

The privateer *Beauregard* has been captured at Key West.

The *Panama Star* states that the Governor of New Granada has entered a protest against the legality of the transportation of prisoners by General Sumner across the neutral territory in the Isthmus of Panama.

A vessel has arrived at Philadelphia from Venezuela with 800 bales of cotton.

Beaufort was still unoccupied on the 20th inst.

The Federals have taken the island of Tybee, at the mouth of the Savannah river.

Commerce in Missouri below St. Louis will be conducted by the Federal Government only.

A despatch in the *New York Times* states that the withdrawal of the Federal forces from Western Virginia has commenced.

The thirty-seventh Congress was to meet at Washington on December 2.

Large reinforcements for General Sherman's naval expedition, and two new expeditions under Generals Butler and Burnside, were to move in a few days.

FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* reports approaching changes in the Cabinet. M. Magne will, it is said, retire, he having, as talking Minister last Session, declared that there was no deficit, but a surplus. M. Baroche, also a talking Minister, has, it is said, not been effective, and will take the portfolio of Public Works, now held by M. Rouher, who will be appointed Minister of the Interior, vice M. Persigny, who returns to England as Ambassador. M. Delangre, Minister of Grace and Justice, will remain. These statements are all given as rumours, but some of them have been very frequently repeated.

ITALY.

THE DEBATE ON ROME AND NAPLES.

In the course of the debate in the Chamber of Deputies, Turin, on the 3rd inst., Signor Musalino was called to order by the President for declaring that the French alliance was not a sincere one.

During the discussion on the 4th, Signor Ratazzi said:—

It would be unjust to wish to make the Government responsible for the failure of the negotiations relative to Rome, and for the disturbances in the Neapolitan provinces. Another Ministry would be in the same situation. I will not discuss the documents which have been communicated to the Chamber by the Government, as it is useless to consider whether the concessions offered to the Church were dangerous to the State, because they have been without any result. Rome is naturally, and will soon really be, the capital of Italy. I am convinced that the French Government desires that the occupation of Rome may cease. It is the interest of France to have a strong Italy as an ally. The French Government is our sincere friend. It recognised us after we had proclaimed Rome as the capital of Italy. Our adversaries are their adversaries.

Signor Ratazzi then alluded to his visit to Paris, which he said was of a purely personal character. He denied the malevolent rumours which had been circulated with regard to his intentions. He condemned the proposition of Signor Ricciardi, and said he believed that France would aid the Italians against the brigandage in Naples. He concluded by urging the union of all the constitutional factions. Signor Ratazzi's speech was received with unanimous applause.

On the 5th, Signor Buoncompagni was among the speakers. He said:—

The path followed by the Government in regard to the Roman question is the one which was recommended to it by a vote of the Chamber. It could not think of acting otherwise than in accord with France, it being necessary that Italy should still have a stranger in her bosom. As long as Venice is in the possession of Austria, Italy will always be at war. We could not obtain Rome without first having Venice. Italy will go to Venice when she shall have an army of 300,000 men. Signor Buoncompagni approved the policy of the Government on all points.

Two members of the Left afterwards spoke against the policy pursued by the Government in the interior.

Baron Ricasoli spoke on the following day. He said that the advice given to the Government during the debate had already been adopted. He refuted the arguments of several members who maintained that the only enemy of Italy was France, and declared that he could easily prove the contrary.

The principle of non-intervention having been agreed to by France, proves that her friendship is free from all pretension to supremacy. Italy is grateful to France. She must, however, place herself in a condition to act alone and without any foreign aid. The state of things in the interior of the kingdom is such as it must always be in a country which is still in a state of revolution. The revolution in Italy is more fortunate than those which have occurred in other countries. No serious disturbances can be cited, as none but common offences had been committed. Public security certainly leaves nothing to be desired, although during the last two years we have been compelled to occupy ourselves more with political questions than with questions of the administration of the country. The forces of the little State of Piedmont could not suffice for the new kingdom. The military and police of the former Government were corrupt, and could not be employed. We have formed new elements.

Baron Ricasoli then spoke of the increase of the

bersaglieri, and of the changes which had been made in the *personnel* of the high functionaries. With regard to the state of things in the Southern provinces, he confirmed the statements contained in the circular addressed to the diplomatic agents of the Italian Government abroad, and said that General Cialdini had prevailed over the brigandage, and had by vigorous action retaken the Basilicata and the territory bordering on the Pontifical frontiers. Baron Ricasoli announced that a treaty had been concluded with France for the repression of brigandage. The abolition of the Lieutenantcy of Naples, he said, was the result of the adoption of the principle of administrative unification. The Lieutenantcy of Sicily would also be shortly abolished. Touching the Roman question, he said that the transformation of the Papacy must be effected by Italy in accord with France. It was not possible to use violence, which could not bring about a solution of the question. It was necessary to persuade the Catholic mind in favour of his project of arrangement. This he was striving to do. France had not disapproved of his project, she only thought it was not an opportune moment for presenting it to the Pope. Baron Ricasoli concluded by asking the Chamber for a vote either frankly, or blaming the policy of the Government.

The Minister of Justice then rose and defended himself against the attacks of the Opposition. He explained the state of the judicial administration, and announced that he will shortly submit a new general code for the approval of the Chamber.

The Minister of War said that he preserved all that he could of the old Bourbon army when in a state of dissolution. The army of Southern Italy, which was composed of volunteers, dissolved itself, but the regimental lists had been maintained. By means of these lists an army of 40,000 men could easily be organised, more especially if Garibaldi, as the Government hoped, would take the command. The regular army numbered 262,000 men, 20,000 of whom were on active service. The new levy would give 94,000 in March next, when he should have 300,000 combatants. These, however, would not all be trained soldiers. To make soldiers, particularly for certain military branches, armies of long standing were necessary. If another war of independence were to break out we should have recourse to an appeal to the national enthusiasm. The nation would find sufficient men for its own deliverance. The Minister of War, in conclusion, said that Italy had 120,000 National Guards, and arms and military equipments in abundance.

The Minister of Public Works, who had just returned from a visit to Naples and Sicily, gave a long explanation respecting the condition of the Southern provinces, which was received with continued applause. His speech produced a great sensation.

On the 6th the Minister of Marine assured the Chamber that Italy would shortly have a navy almost twice as strong as that of Austria.

On the 7th Baron Ricasoli gave some additional explanation regarding the state of public security in the city of Bologna, which, he said, was not so bad as had been represented.

Count Bastogi, Minister of Finance, refuted some erroneous assertions which had been made by Signor Ratazzi, in reference to the state of the national finances.

Signor Carutti, in the name of the Government, declared, that in drawing up their plan of arrangement with the Pope, the Ministry had no intention of making a diplomatic document, but simply an appeal to public opinion on the pretensions of Rome and Italy.

Dr. Bertani made a lengthy speech against the Ministry, which drew forth loud protestations and many questions from several deputies. Dr. Bertani having in the course of his speech asserted that on some occasions the Administration had been guilty of opening letters passing through the post, the Ministry demanded that the charge should be investigated by the Chamber. After a long discussion, a committee was appointed to receive the depositions of Dr. Bertani.

General Cialdini has joined the Italian opposition, and the party of action. He considers himself, it would seem, badly treated by Ricasoli, and his junction with the Left has created a great sensation. No clear statement of his wishes has yet been published, but he is said to favour the motto, "All for Italy by Italians," and to deprecate deference to France.

It is stated that the Italian deficit for the year will amount to eight millions sterling.

General Garibaldi had a long interview with King Victor Emmanuel on the 4th. The General has since embarked at Genoa, with his son Menotti, and some friends.

Father Passaglia delivered his inaugural address, at the Turin University, on Saturday. He was received by a numerous audience with much enthusiasm.

ROME.

The health of Pope Pius IX. is said to be excellent, notwithstanding the frequent reports spread about in the newspapers to the contrary.

Letters from Rome of the 30th November report that an exciting demonstration has taken place at the theatre. Tricolour emblems were exhibited in the midst of vivas raised in honour of Victor Emmanuel. The Roman gendarmerie made some arrests and cleared the theatre, and French gendarmes prevented the demonstration from being renewed in the streets.

The Marquis de Lavelette, the new French Ambassador, has arrived at Rome.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The *Oesterreichische Zeitung*, in announcing that the budget will be submitted to the council of the Empire immediately, says:—"It is not in consequence of the finances being in a desperate state that the Government is about to take this step, because the wants of the State for the next few months are provided for, and the taxes are coming in better than ever. The deficit scarcely amounts to 50,000,000 florins, to meet which means are not wanting. The Government only desires that the budget may be examined by the representatives of the people. A bill on ministerial responsibility will be presented at the same time as the budget."

Advices from the south of Hungary state that any functionary refusing to co-operate with the Government will have eighteen soldiers lodged in his house until he resumes his functions.

The following letter from Pesth of the [28th of November contains the latest news as to the state of public feeling in that country:—

Count Palffy, the Lieutenant-Governor of Hungary, has since his appointment to office been surrounded by advisers who are so little acquainted with the real state of public opinion in this country, that he concludes from the superficial tranquillity of Hungary that the new measures introduced by the Government have produced universal contentment. I am told by several persons who have seen him that he speaks with admiration of the attitude of the press, although the only proof it gives of devotion to the Government is its silence. The Count even believes that he was made the dupe of the Government when he was named dictator of a country so tranquil. In the meantime, the officials who have been appointed unconstitutionally are completing the task imposed on them. Public functionaries are henceforth to be appointed by the Aulic Council, but several individuals who have been named to high positions have refused the honour conferred on them. I have received private information, from which it appears that the Servians are preparing for war, and that they will meet with great sympathy from the Hungarians and Croats.

The Austrian troops have evacuated the Suttorina and returned to Castelnovo, in Austrian territory.

PRUSSIA.

The election of members for the Chamber of Deputies took place on the 6th inst. throughout the kingdom. At Berlin eight of the candidates elected belong to the more advanced fraction of the Liberal party, and one to the old Liberal party. The result of the elections in the provinces, as far as they have been announced by telegraph, are also in favour of the party of progress and the Liberal party. The Minister of State, Baron Auerwald, Herr von der Hevdt, and Count Schwerin, have been elected.

POLAND.

Bealobrzski, the substitute of the Archbishop of Warsaw, has been condemned to ten years' transportation to Siberia.

Seven Jewish and eight Christian students of the medical faculty of the University of Warsaw have been condemned to serve as common soldiers in the Russian *corps d'armée* in Orenburg.

Great excitement prevails at Warsaw.

The Marquis de Wielopolski has withdrawn his resignation. It is said that he will remain at St. Petersburg, as member of the council there for the affairs of Poland. This council has been long in existence, and exercises a sort of general supervision over the Government at Warsaw. A letter from that capital says:—

Wielopolski's new position, however, will not do much to increase his popularity among the Poles, to whom the Russian Council at St. Petersburg is peculiarly obnoxious, as being the fountain-head from which spring all the tyranny and cruelty which now desolate their country. On the other hand, he has left some tokens of his ability and industry among them for which they will have reason to be grateful, the Education Bill and that relating to the position of the serfs among the number; and it may be that the presence of so able and energetic an advocate of moderate measures in the council of the Sovereign who holds in his hands the destinies of Poland will have some influences in determining the system of government to be in future adopted in that unfortunate country.

The same letter says:—"The number of persons lying in the Polish fortresses, or sent to Siberia and the Caucasus, already amounts to upwards of 10,000, and is increasing every day at a frightful ratio; and the drafting off of innocent men into the regiments of the Czar is not anything new, but has been already done, though on a smaller scale than is now proposed, in Warsaw and other towns during the late events."

RUSSIA.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* publishes an important document. A Council of Ministers is to be formed, to which will in future be trusted the direction of affairs, thus modifying the isolated and almost subordinate action of the Ministers of the Emperor.

The Emperor of Russia has decided to grant an amnesty to all the students who were engaged in the recent disturbances.

"The situation," says the *Opinion Nationale*, "does not improve in Russia. The peasants are discontented, and the advanced parties are organising themselves. Accounts from St. Petersburg state that a revolutionary committee calling itself the Veliko-Russe (the great Russian), has been discovered, and that the chief was a general, who, with other members, is said to have been arrested. But internal embarrassments do not prevent the Russian Government from displaying in Poland rare foresight. They have just adopted two measures which testify a touching solicitude for the patriots of the two sexes who may be arrested for taking part in national de-

monstrations. One permits the authorities to collect funds to prepare prisons intended especially for ladies; and the second allows money to be procured for purchasing 2,000 lambskins, for the use of the persons who may be transported to Siberia."

TURKEY.

Mumtaz Effendi has been appointed Minister of Finance in the place of Teflik Pasha. This appointment caused a panic in the money market. The paper money became depreciated fifty-two per cent.

It is said that the Porte will replace Fuad Pasha in Syria by one governor with a political commissioner. A reduction has been effected in the army budget to the extent of 25,000,000 piastres yearly.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Late advices from British Columbia regarding the yield of gold are extremely favourable. New discoveries of great richness had been made, and in some localities the miners were realising larger sums than have ever been obtained by individuals in California or Australia. The instances of persons gaining steadily from 10% to 30% a-day were numerous. Two labouring men had just arrived at Victoria, Vancouver's Island, with 1,400*l.*, the produce of only a few weeks. Success was so general that it is said "we hear of no dissatisfied miners."

INDIA.

The overland mail has brought intelligence from Bombay to the 12th of November, and from Calcutta to the 3rd.

Lord Canning will signalise the last month of his administration by conceding a fixed assessment of the land revenue in the North West Provinces. He has decided the question of the seat of Government there in favour of Allahabad, and has sanctioned the erection of buildings for Government offices.

Lord Canning invested Scindia, Ruttiala, Chopal, and Rampore with the Order of the Star of India, at Allahabad, on the 1st of November. Holkar and Guicowant were also invested with the Order on the same day.

Lieutenant Singer, of the 75th Regiment, was killed by an armed mob in Nowgong, Assam, while trying to collect the taxes. Troops were ordered up to restore quiet.

Major Carnegie has been dismissed from civil employment in Oude, for dishonourable dealing in Government paper.

It is stated that Baboo Ramapersaud Roy will be appointed to the tenth seat in the High Court of Justice in Bengal. His knowledge of Hindoo and Mohammedan law is of a very high order. Also that Baboo Prosonocoomar Tezore will be appointed to a seat in the Imperial Legislative Council, when it meets under the new act, about the 15th of November.

Government has sanctioned the expenditure of 15,000 rupees for the construction of a pier at Randier, a town situated on the south of the Taptee, opposite to Surat, to facilitate the shipping of cotton.

The enterprising people of Oude, headed by Maharajah Maun Singh and Mr. Menzies, have embarked in cotton cultivation on an extensive scale.

Cholera was still raging in Cabool, though not so violently. The victims of the disease were said to be fifty daily. The general health of India, and in particular of the town and island of Bombay, was good. The harvest was progressing favourably.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.—At three p.m. on the 8th an eruption of Vesuvius took place near Torredel-Greco. This eruption was of a more threatening character than any that has taken place for a long period. The inhabitants were taking to flight.

PAPAL REVENUE FROM INDULGENCES.—We learn from the *Ami de la Religion* that the Pope is raising a small revenue in Spain by prolonging a bull which permits Spaniards to eat meat on fast days (certain days in Lent only excepted) for the small consideration of 1 real a year (about 2*d.*). This bull is to be publicly proclaimed in the streets of Madrid with the usual solemnities.

THE OPENING OF MADAGASCAR TO MISSIONS.—The Bishop of Mauritius, in a letter dated Port Louis, October 4th, said that he hoped soon to visit Madagascar; that there was a strong English feeling prevailing there, and the present prospect for missionary work, there and on the Continent, were calculated to stir up his hopeful expectations for regions so long clouded over with darkness and cruelty.

VICTOR EMMANUEL'S CHILDREN.—The King of Italy has appointed the Commendatore Buoncompagni to be lecturer on constitutional law to the Prince of Piedmont, heir to the throne, and he has also placed the Prince under the tuition of the advocate and deputy Mancini for the study of international law. This Prince, Humbert, is praised by his instructors both for intelligence and scrupulous attention to his duties. His lessons last eight hours, and his daily task begins at six o'clock in the morning. He is now seventeen years and a-half old, and will be of age on his eighteenth. He has lately been made President of the National Rifle Association, an honour he owes less to his rank than to his skill with the weapon. His brother, Amadeus, Duke of Aosta, now more than sixteen years old, is said to be of a livelier disposition and to exhibit uncommon talent. The youngest son, Odo, Duke of Montferrat, is rapidly recovering from the infirmities which afflicted his boyhood. He is now fifteen, and has rid himself of his slight deformity. He generally resides at Genoa, and is being educated for the naval

service. The only princess who remains at home still unwedded, Maria Pia, is a fair, stately, graceful young lady of fourteen.

Postscript.

Wednesday, December 11, 1861.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

(Per Norwegian, via Portland and Londonderry.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.

The *Philadelphia Enquirer* publishes a letter from Fort Monroe, giving further details about the Fort Pickens affair. Pensacola was reported to be entirely evacuated by the Confederates, and the navy yard destroyed. General Bragg had sent for reinforcements. Five Federal vessels, which assisted Fort Pickens in the bombardment of Pensacola, are reported to have been riddled with shot. Advice from Port Royal state that Tyber Island was found deserted when the Federals took possession of it. The great naval expedition was ready to sail from Port Royal for points further south. The fortifications on Ship Island had been completed, and were garrisoned by 150 Federal troops.

Generals Price and McCulloch are concentrating their forces at Springfield, Missouri.

The Kentucky Confederate State Convention has passed a Secession ordinance.

The British brig *Cornucopia* has been captured off Mobile while endeavouring to run the blockade.

The City of Baltimore passed Cape Race to-day.

(Latest by Telegraph to Portland.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.

The latest news from Fort Pickens continues so contradictory and confused that it is impossible to tell what has been the result of the engagement.

The Quebec correspondent of the *New York Times* states that a council of war was held on the 24th inst., at which it was resolved to fortify the Canadian frontier.

THE ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS.

NAPLES, Dec. 9, 6 A.M.

The eruption of Mount Vesuvius is increasing in intensity. The population of Torre del Greco have fled; nearly all the houses are damaged. The stream of lava is twenty-eight palms in depth, and three quarters of a mile broad.

The sensation is immense.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Dec. 10.

The *Ami de la Religion* has received a first warning for having published an article entitled "Reform in Russia." "which," states the warning, "under the pretext of criticising the reforms of a foreign Government, contains an attack against the French constitution."

ITALY.

TURIN, Dec. 10.

In to-day's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, Signor Dondos Reggio stated his opinion that it was necessary to maintain the Lieutenantcy of Sicily, and censured the suppression of that of Naples. He spoke in favour of the privileges of the Sicilian ecclesiastics, and said he wished that the principles of the liberty of the Church should not endanger those privileges.

The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce defended the abolition of the lieutenantcies, and said that dangerous political circles were formed around the lieutenantcies, whose power presented obstacles to the authority of Parliament and the responsibility of the Ministers. The Minister also alluded to the brigandage in the Neapolitan provinces, and to the projected economic reforms, which he stated would entirely destroy it. This statement was received with general applause.

Signori Miceli, Sandonato, and Crispi spoke against the Ministry.

To-day the Senate approved the bill for the temporary occupation of the religious houses for the service of the State.

The *Official Gazette* of this evening announces that twenty-nine brigands, among whom was José Borges, have been shot or killed near Tagliacozzo. A box was seized containing the correspondence of an agent of Monsignor Santucci with Cardinal Antonelli and the Bourbon authorities.

BOURBON CONSPIRACY IN SICILY.

PARIS, DEC. 10.

The *Presse* of this evening publishes a despatch, dated Palermo, 6th inst., announcing the discovery of a Bourbon conspiracy in that city. The principal conspirators, among whom were a great number of priests, had been arrested.

MADAGASCAR.

The *Sémaphore* of Marseilles says:—"By the *Messilia*, which has just arrived, we have news to a late date from Madagascar, via Réunion and the Mauritius. The new King, Radama II., after throwing open the entire island to Europeans, was engaged in carrying into effect a pacific revolution, which, if he persists, will secure the happiness and prosperity of his kingdom. Radama, who acts under the guidance of two Frenchmen, MM. Laborde and Lambert, by making Madagascar a free kingdom, desires to assure to it all the advantages of modern civilisation, by which foreigners would be the first to profit. The island has hitherto been

closed to strangers, and the capital, regarded as a sacred city, was only visited at rare intervals by Europeans, but now foreigners have perfect liberty to establish themselves where they please, and commercial liberty is granted to all. Foreigners are hastening to take advantage of these privileges; already have a great many planters gone to establish themselves near Tamatave, where the King has made large concessions of land. The future prospects of the island are so satisfactory that the planters of the Mauritius already think of sending to Madagascar part of the emigrants destined for their colony. Radama is also making great reforms for his own people, and, contrary to what might have been expected, encounters no opposition. He has already given encouragement to education and the useful arts, and has abolished the penalty of death. The promises made by him will be kept, since long before his accession to the throne his excellent sentiments were known and esteemed."

ADDRESS FROM THE PEACE SOCIETY TO CHRISTIAN MINISTERS.

We have great pleasure in giving insertion and bespeaking earnest attention to the subjoined address:—

The committee of the Peace Society, in no presuming or dictatorial spirit, but under a profound sense of the duty which devolves upon them at this solemn crisis, venture most respectfully but earnestly, to appeal to Christian ministers of all denominations throughout this land. It needs no argument to show that a war between England and America,—prolonged, desperate, and sanguinary, as it is sure to prove, if it once break forth,—would be one of the most tremendous calamities that can befall the civilised world. It is not merely the fearful material injuries which these two great nations have the power of inflicting upon each other, by the destruction of the enormous commerce that exists between them, by plundering each other's property on sea, by unlimited mutual carnage and desolation. But worse than all to a Christian mind would be the moral aspects of such a conflict. For the two nations are virtually one. Sprung from the same stock, inheriting the same traditions, speaking the same language, nourished by the same literature, professing the same faith, and united together in a thousand ways,—by domestic alliances, by private friendships, by frequent religious communion, by common enterprises of Christian philanthropy,—it is impossible not to feel that such a war would be essentially a civil war. "The evil of such a war," as has been well said, "would be not merely political, financial, and commercial, grievous as these would be. It would inflict a wound on men's souls, consciences, principles. It would infuse venom into their blood, it would pervert their views of truth and Christianity, and the hatred produced by it would be malignant and durable, in exact proportion to the nearness of their kindred."

That there is a great, a pressing danger of this calamity coming upon us, it is impossible to doubt. But whence arises this danger? Is it from any insuperable difficulty in adjusting by peaceable means the particular question that has lately arisen between the two governments? No one will imagine it for a moment. Far graver disputes have often been settled without war. If there be no other expedient, is it not just one of those questions, that may with the utmost propriety be referred to the decision of the impartial arbitrator? But the danger is lest the people of the two countries should become so exasperated by incessant appeals to their passions, as to hurry them into strife, against the wiser judgment of their Governments and against all considerations of interest, reason, humanity, and religion. Unhappily there is a large class in every community that have an interest in war, and another class who from sheer violence of temper seem to take a pleasure in fomenting quarrels between States. It is impossible to observe the tone taken by a large proportion of the press on both sides without feeling that this mighty engine of influence is being more and more pressed into the service of passion. Without suspecting the writers of a deliberate desire to embroil the two countries, they allow themselves such a license of invective, they indulge so unsparingly in reciprocal accusations, challenges, and defiance, that by a necessary process, mutual exasperation is increased day by day. Bitterness begets bitterness. Violence inflames violence.

Is there any means of counteracting these pernicious and perilous tendencies, and calming down the public mind on both sides to a tone of moderation more becoming two great kindred and Christian nations? Such a means unquestionably exists in the power of the Christian ministry. Shall this mighty power be employed in the interests of peace or of war? Surely, there cannot be a moments hesitation on any man's mind as to the side on which it ought to be employed? The God of the Gospel is emphatically "the very God of peace." The character of Him, whose life and doctrine constitute the very essence of Christianity, is the most perfect embodiment that the world has ever witnessed of love—of love patient, forbearing, long-suffering to the utmost, and yet victorious beyond the wildest dreams of military conquest. The spirit which pervades the whole system, is the spirit of "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness." That which constitutes its great and glorious peculiarity in dealing with the evil with which the world is fraught, is its method of "overcoming evil with good."

Can it be doubted, for an instant, that with such an instrument as this in their hands, the hundred thousand ministers of Christ scattered through England and America, could, if they only united in the effort, soon produce, on both sides of the Atlantic, a state of public opinion which, with the blessing of Heaven, would banish the very possibility of war between the two nations?

Surely, surely, it may be hoped that ministers of the Gospel of peace, will, on such a subject, and at so awful a crisis in the history of the two most civilised and Christian nations of the world, take their tone, not from the angry and excited journalists, who live amid the turbulent elements of secular politics, but from that higher law, of which they are the avowed exponents, and to diffuse whose influence through society is the one supreme and solemn business of their life. Is not this a moment when they are called upon to inculcate with renewed and emphatic earnestness upon the people

around them, who are swayed by the vague and violent impulses of passion, the duty of cherishing those dispositions which are so distinctively and emphatically Christian; the forbearance that can restrain its own evil impulses; the patience that can await the subsidence of anger in another; the Divine charity, which "suffereth long and is kind, which vaunteth not itself, which is not easily provoked, which thinketh no evil, which beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

There will be no lack of stimulants to the opposite class of feelings. Indeed they need no stimulants. National pride, anger, resentment, revenge, and that spurious and vindictive patriotism which expresses itself rather in hatred and defiance of other countries, than in an enlightened regard for the interests of its own—these are feelings so congenial to man's evil nature, that they require no incitements. But such incitements are, and will be applied, from a thousand sources. Who is to stem the torrent of evil influences that will be thus created, and which may soon threaten to sweep away before it, alike our reason and our religion? Who, unless it be the ministers of the Prince of Peace, who have been set apart for the service of the altar and the sanctuary, that coming forth at such a time as this, with their minds calmed by communion with the eternal and immutable forms of God's truth, they might be better fitted to allay the perturbed spirit of those who dwell amid the feverish excitements of commercial and political life?

Let them then boldly fulfil this sublime, this glorious function. Let them proclaim aloud the truth of God. Let them stand up amid the storm, and in the name of their Divine Master rebuke the raging tempest of human passion. Above all, let them call together their people, for united, earnest, and importunate prayer to Him who holds the hearts of all men in His hands, that He would, in His merciful providence, interpose to avert from us so great a calamity, and give peace in our time.

JOSEPH PEASE, President.

HENRY RICHARD, Secretary.

19, New Broad-street, London, E.C.

DEPUTATION TO LORD GRANVILLE ON THE REVISED CODE.—An influential deputation of gentlemen connected with schools which receive the Government grant for education had an interview with Lord Granville and Mr. Lowe yesterday. They stated their objections to the new minute, and petitioned for its withdrawal. Lord Granville, in his reply, entered very fully into the subject. Whatever difference of opinion there might be on the subject, he was convinced that they all felt heartily and seriously desirous of promoting the education of the poor, and of combining religious and secular instruction. That was the desire of the Government, and he had no doubt that it was equally the wish of all present. The Government would make their free explanation to Parliament, and Parliament alone, to whose verdict he was bound respectfully to bow, must be the judges of the desirability of adopting a new code. Certainly, on the part of the Government, he could give no hope that it would be withdrawn until Parliament had had an opportunity of pronouncing an opinion upon it.

BIRKENHEAD ELECTION.—The Birkenhead election took place yesterday. It resulted in the return of Mr. Laird, the Conservative candidate, by a majority of 323. The Roman Catholic vote turned the scale in the successful candidate's favour. The following is stated to be the state of the poll at the close:—

Laird	1,661
Brassey	1,338

Majority for Laird 323

NOTTINGHAM.—The Earl of Lincoln is still confined to his house through indisposition, but information has reached Nottingham that he is improving, and in all probability he will be here in a day or two. It is also stated that his lordship will vote for the entire abolition of church-rates, but is opposed to the ballot. The state of parties in the town is pretty equally divided in favour of Sir Robert Clifton and the noble earl, and the contest between them will be a very severe one.

THE GUARDS FOR CANADA.—On Monday the 1st battalion of the Grenadier Guards were inspected at the Tower. The whole of the men have undergone medical examination, and those found unfit for active service have been rejected; the baggage is all packed, and the regiment is now ready to move at a moment's notice.

THE MELBOURNE.—The hired screw steam transport Melbourne, Captain Auld, from Woolwich for North America, entered Plymouth Sound yesterday afternoon, at half-past two o'clock, and at 5 was escorted out by the Orpheus, 21, Captain Barnett, C.B.

OMINOUS ANNOUNCEMENT.—The *Nationalités* states that General Cialdini has been absent from the Chamber for the last two days, owing to an indisposition, for which he has been bled twice. Remembering the fate of Cavour, we trust General Cialdini may not be bled thrice.

MARK LANE—THIS DAY.

The show of samples of English wheat here to-day was very moderate. The trade, however, was in a sluggish state, and prices had a downward tendency. The imports of foreign wheat are large, and buyers, consequently, were very cautious in making sales; indeed, it was difficult to transact business in any description without submitting to lower currencies. Floating cargoes of grain were in limited request, at barely late rates. Good and fine qualities of barley were firm in value, but inferior kinds were a slow sale. The supply on offer was small. Malt moved off slowly, yet no change took place in the quotations. Oats were firm, and prices had an upward tendency. The show of samples, both home-grown and foreign, was much restricted. Beans and peas changed hands slowly, on former terms. The flour trade was dull, and in some instances prices were decidedly easier.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE HOMOEOPATHIC CONTROVERSY.—There were one or two typographical errors in the letter signed "W. B." on this subject we inserted last week. The following are two of the most conspicuous:—In line six, for "rarely" read "really." In the foot-note, for "decomposed by a poison" read "decomposed by a prism."

"A Constant Reader."—Agreeably to our notice last week we must decline further letters on the subject.

"A Few Members of Christ's One Church."—We see no good purpose to be answered by now sowing the seeds of division, and throwing difficulties in the way of a promising movement.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1861.

SUMMARY.

THE arrival of every fresh mail from America will be awaited with increasing anxiety. A few hours may put us in possession of President Lincoln's Message to Congress, which may give some clue to the course which his Government will pursue on the receipt of Lord Russell's despatch. Thus far there are indications that no such reply will be made to Lord Lyons as will lead to instant war. The Washington Cabinet was known to be divided on the subject. General McClellan views the forcible seizure of Messrs. Slidell and Mason as an "outrage," and although Capt. Wilks has been ostentatiously feted at Boston, there was a great mass of intelligent opinion throughout the North favourable to moderate counsels, which is reflected in the changed tone of the New York press. President Lincoln, who can act independently of his Ministers, is a conscientious man, with a full sense of the responsibilities of his position, and would probably be ready to sacrifice Mr. Seward to his sense of duty—if duty led him to comply with the demands of our Government—and be anxious to share with the Committee of the Senate, of which Mr. Charles Sumner, the champion of arbitration, is chairman, the onerous task of deciding on the momentous question at issue. To suppose that Lord Russell's despatch shuts up the President to a peremptory "Yes" or "No" to the demand for the release of the Confederate Commissioners is to forget that Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Milner Gibson are members of the Cabinet that framed that solemn message to the Washington Government.

A response to British demands for reparation has already been evoked in Paris if not in Washington. The letter of General Scott, if making too light of this grave complication, is almost an assurance beforehand that there will be no war. He wants a fair pretext for the surrender of the captured "ambassadors," and says in effect—"Agree to amend the maritime law by which we were formerly, and you are now, the sufferers,

and we will gladly give up these men." Is this so unreasonable a claim, considering that we hitherto been the obstacle to all negotiation on this subject? General Scott throws his great reputation as a shield before the Federal Government to enable them to resist mere popular clamour, and his letter we take to be a promise in advance that they will meet our claims in a conciliatory spirit. This disposition will be strengthened by the marked disapproval of the conduct of Capt. Wilks by the French Government, as expressed in the *Moniteur* and the *Paris press*.

The uppermost anxiety of the British people finds expression in every direction and in various ways, above the din of preparation in our arsenals and dockyards. On the Stock Exchange, notwithstanding the protestations of the *Times* against panic, the funds are already down to the average price obtained during the Crimean war; general trade is uncertain and restricted; the Liverpool cotton market is paralysed; American bond-holders apprehensive; and the general public alarmed at the prospect of a mighty calamity, the mere shadow of which casts a blight on the nation. There are signs not only of a calmer feeling abroad, but that the moral power of the community, which is rarely felt except on great occasions, and the great material interests affected by the crisis, are being put forth in favour of peace. There is a strong revulsion against anything like a defiant spirit, and the Peace Society and other moderating agencies are hastening with laudable eagerness to give it a right direction. Mr. Newman Hall and Mr. Spurgeon have set an example to Christian ministers which we doubt not will be generally followed. At Rochdale Mr. Bright has drawn a glowing picture of the greatness of our trans-Atlantic cousins, which, if overcharged, presents views of the question which have been too much ignored, and which will not be without their influence on the main issue. When in the course of another fortnight the response of President Lincoln is received in England the public is likely to be in a frame of mind to give it calm and anxious consideration with a view to a pacific arrangement.

Apart from the difficulty arising from the seizure of the Southern Commissioners on board the Trent, the American news is not of primary importance. The message of President Davis to the Southern Congress is confident and unyielding:—"The Confederates shrink with aversion from the bare idea of renewing connexion with the North. The South will be content to live at peace with the North, but the separation is final. The South will accept no alternative." President Davis advances solid proofs of the success of the Confederate cause, but his boasts of the financial resources of the South are more open to question. The message was evidently written under the confidence caused by the prospect of a difference between England and the Federal Government. On land the civil war is almost suspended, and there are signs of the mighty armies on either side going into winter quarters. The North is throwing all its strength into naval operations. Pensacola, on the Florida coast, has been bombarded from Fort Pickens and by ships of war, and its navy yard is said to be destroyed. Beaufort, the new Federal conquest in South Carolina, is being strengthened, though as yet no important results have followed the occupation of the adjacent islands. Other expeditions were preparing to leave for the South, including one of a large number of whalers filled with stones to be sunk at the mouth of some harbour. As to the policy of the war, the Washington Cabinet is becoming more conservative, and slave emancipation is distasteful to the majority of the President's advisers, as well as to the Federal generals in Missouri, Virginia, and South Carolina.

The newly-created borough of Birkenhead has, by a large majority, returned Mr. Laird, the great shipbuilder, as its representative to the House of Commons. Beyond the fact that the Catholics voted in a body for the Liberal-Conservative, the election is devoid of political importance. Mr. Laird is sent to Parliament not because he is an adherent of Lord Derby, but because local influences were too strong for his more Liberal opponent. We are glad to see that both the Liberal candidates for Nottingham, Lord Lincoln and Sir Robert Clifton, are favourable to the entire abolition of Church-rates.

The interesting conference held at Worcester last week for the extension of home missions in connexion with the Congregational body brought to light an amount of spiritual destitution in that district that indicates how inadequate is mere chapel-building to cope with the evil. The Worcester Congregationalists, though depressed by these revelations, were not disheartened. After anxious consultation a fund of nearly 2,000*l.* was subscribed for the employment of ten Evangelists in the country, to be regarded as a commemoration of the

year 1662, and it was arranged that all the churches of the locality should be visited with a view to forward the objects of the conference. By thus stimulating local action in destitute districts the Home Missionary Society is doing a great work.

The news from the continent excites but little attention in the presence of the absorbing American question. In Russia, while society is becoming more and more disorganised, the Emperor has made a step towards responsible government by creating a council of ministers, to be followed by an enlargement of the Council of the Empire, which is to possess legislative functions. The régime of martial law is scarcely slackened in Poland, in which unhappy country the highest as well as the lowest are stricken down. It is estimated that ten thousand Poles have during the present year been imprisoned, exiled, or killed; and there are no present symptoms that the reign of terror is abating.—Hungary is passing through an ordeal scarcely less severe. Military coercion is the remedy for the slightest symptoms of passive resistance to the Government at a time when the Vienna Reichsrath is being amused with a bill defining ministerial responsibility.—In the Italian Parliament the protracted debates on the Roman and Neapolitan questions have not yet been brought to a close, but they have tended to strengthen the hands of Baron Ricasoli, who has met with considerable support from his rival, M. Ratazzi. That statesman, who has lately returned from Paris, expressly vouches for the desire of the Emperor Napoleon to bring to an early termination the French occupation of Rome, and the Prime Minister was able to announce that that potentate would co-operate in suppressing brigandage on the Roman frontier. Baron Ricasoli does not despair of a solution of "the greatest question raised in modern times," believing that "the times are mature in which the Church and the State should have their separate spheres of action"—a remark which may be applied to other countries besides Italy.

PEACE OR WAR?

WE are quite conscious of the fact that the awful question comprised in the three words we have placed at the head of this article is one towards the solution of which no words of ours can appreciably contribute. Nevertheless, we never remember being pressed with a more weighty sense of responsibility, nor moved with a more earnest desire to discharge it, as in the sight of God, than on the present occasion. On the one hand we feel that the issue in dispute between us and the Federal Government of America is one that must be regarded as unspeakably important to the interests and progress of humanity; on the other hand, we feel, in common probably with the reflecting on both sides of the Atlantic, that the enforcement of our claim, just and important as it may be, by a war with our kindred in the Northern States of America, might, and probably would, draw after it consequences so disastrous, so disgraceful, so extensively demoralising, so fatal to freedom and religion, that not even a speedy triumph could compensate for the hundredth part of the cost at which it must be achieved. The alternative is a terrible one; and if, as is most probable, we fear, England is ultimately left to decide which she will choose, we, for our part, shall cast in our lot with the advocates of peace.

In coming to this determination, we do so with our eyes wide open to what may be called the substantial merits of the question. We think that the Captain of the *San Jacinto* committed an offence unwarranted by the recognised law of nations. We think that the act ought to be promptly disavowed by Mr. Lincoln, and that Messrs. Slidell and Mason ought to be forthwith restored to the protection of the Power from beneath whose flag they were seized. We are inclined to believe that the Cabinet at Washington would honourably heal this breach, were they free to act upon their own convictions. We are afraid, however, that Mr. Seward has been for some time past bent upon, if not involving his Government in actual hostilities with us, at least stirring up bad blood in the people on both sides, and we feel compelled to confess that he has been but too successful. We must own, moreover, that the conduct of America towards the United Kingdom has been for a series of years past ungracious, irritating, overbearing, and insolent. She has been anything but decently careful of giving unnecessary provocation. She has done anything but exhibit the sympathies of kinship; and should war with the mother country actually ensue, her leading men will be unable to clear their consciences from the guilt of having done little to avoid it, much to precipitate it. No doubt, in days gone by, England bore herself harshly and offensively towards the young but thriving Republic; but, of late years, she has

evinced a laudable dignity and forbearance in the conduct of her relations to the United States, and, since the outbreak of the civil war, has honourably, and at great cost to herself, maintained her neutrality. We do not believe it to be true, nor do we think that it will serve the Americans to profess it, that they have a right to be angry with us for our lack of sympathy with them in the deadly struggle upon which they have entered; and if that sympathy has been less lively or less demonstrative than they had anticipated, we think they ought to be told that their own evident desire to avoid grappling with the institution of slavery, and not our self-interested bias towards the South, will most truly account for its absence.

Having said thus much we feel ourselves the more free to protest against a resort to force for the settlement of the pending dispute. The fact that the Northern States of America have already upon their hands a greater war than they are likely to bring to a successful conclusion, and that Great Britain was never so well prepared to rush into hostilities, so far from justifying precipitate steps, supplies, in our opinion, one of the strongest arguments in favour of a magnanimous forbearance. Gentlemen, when there happens to be an obvious disparity between them and an antagonist, are extremely careful to abstain from every act which might justly be interpreted as a menace, let it should seem that their haste to take the opponent at a temporary disadvantage, proceeded rather from cowardice than courage. Nations would lose none of the respect due to them from others, by acting upon the same principle. Consciousness of strength, and especially of strength relatively to an offender, ought to make us as reluctant as possible to use it. We can afford to put upon ourselves an extra measure of self-restraint. We are not so likely to expose ourselves to a misrepresentation of motive. At any rate, we put ourselves in a position to reap a full harvest of satisfaction from so undoubted an exercise of our self-command.

In the second place, we feel it incumbent upon us to recollect that the point in dispute between us is really and exclusively a point of international law. The act of Captain Wilks was committed upon his own interpretation of the law of nations. He may have been mistaken, as we think he was; but it was no part of his intention to commit a breach of that law, far less to contest with us the right of asylum. This latter offence, if it have really been perpetrated, is incidental only to the former. The Cabinet of Washington are not likely to dispute with our claim to protect all political delinquents who seek our protection under circumstances not prohibited by international law; and, although by inferential reasoning we may succeed in making out that Captain Wilks has trespassed upon a right which we hold sacred in this respect, it would be monstrous to go to war with America for involving herself unintentionally in an offence her right to commit which, as such, she would strongly repudiate. It is the intention which gives its character to the act—the accidental wrong which exaggerates it does not necessarily engage our honour to punish it as if it were deliberately intended. No; the true offence is an offence against public law, and it is to public law that the appeal should be made. Other maritime Powers are as much concerned as we are in preventing belligerents from exercising an unrecognised authority over neutrals. It is a case for litigation before authority—it is not a case for the bloody arbitrement of war.

In the third place, we can hardly do well to forget that we have ourselves set the example of straining the rights of belligerents as against neutrals, to their very utmost, and have waged one unsuccessful war with America in the prosecution of a somewhat overbearing maritime policy. We have established, perhaps, no precedent, which will entirely cover Captain Wilks's offence, but we have done many things which we should find it hard, in these more enlightened days, to justify. Many a time have weaker naval Powers been compelled to gulp down wrongs which we have thrust upon them in our exercise of the right of search. It would ill become us now to refuse all reference to the law which, more than any other nation, we have contributed to make. We are not justified in pushing away such appeal as may be made to the principles, precedents and usages which go to make up what the Powers in common recognise as public law, and in declaring that we prefer to decide the question with cutlas and cannon. Should the American Government indicate their willingness to be judged and to abide by the law of nations, we, whose only complaint has been that the law has been violated, can hardly refuse to pay it this mark of respect. It would be the grossest of inconsistencies in us to refuse to ascertain the deliberate decision of law, and so imitate the offence of Captain Wilks in resolving to arrive at that decision by force.

If our complaint be that the comity as well as the law of nations has been rudely assailed, and that honour as well as interest has been put in peril, then we say that we have already, in the gravest and most solemn manner, bound ourselves as to the course we should pursue. In the Conference at Paris, held at the close of the war with Russia, our own Plenipotentiary, as we are timely reminded by the *Daily News*, introduced a protocol which was adopted without dissent by the representatives of the other European Powers there present, a portion of which contains these emphatic words, "The Plenipotentiaries of all the countries represented in Congress do not hesitate to express in the name of their Governments the confident hope that the States, between which a serious disagreement shall hereafter arise, shall, before appealing to force, have recourse (so far as circumstances may admit) to the good offices of some friendly Power." This protocol the Government of the United States approved and endorsed. Why should we, in this case, let this wise and humane determination be thrust into abeyance? Why should we strike first, and reason afterwards? The Government at Washington might naturally decline the proffered mediation of Russia between themselves and the rebellious Confederate States—but would they refuse the arbitration of Russia in a misunderstanding between themselves and a foreign power? Or have we any reason for rejecting this method of settling the quarrel? There are journals that denounce "protracted negotiation." Well, let us have, instead, friendly mediation. We have accepted it before now—we shall do honour to our professions and to our pledges, as well as to our principles, in accepting it again.

Further, we should do well to bear in mind that we cannot strike at the Northern States of America whilst engaged in their present contest with the South, without wounding a policy which we have learned to cherish as sacred. Our first act of war would be to recognise the independence of the Confederate States, the corner stone of whose constitution is negro slavery, and the scope of whose enterprise will be the revival of the slave-trade. By that one act we shall undo the labours, and the sacrifices, and the consistent pursuit of many years. We shall do more. We shall fling into the lap of the Southern planters the benefits which we were all hoping to see extended to India. We shall reverse the prospects of our largest and most populous dependency in favour of a foreign people who trample upon our holiest charities and sympathies, and who, until they needed our alliance, never spared us taunt nor provocation. But above all, we should paralyse the best hopes of human progress, and should, however unwillingly, give sanction and stability to an institution we abhor, license and success to an ambition we execrate. We might avenge ourselves—but at what a frightful moral cost! We might punish our offending kin, but we should also, in doing it, confirm the degradation of four millions of slaves.

We have been thus earnest in our advocacy of peace, because we think we perceive a disposition in a portion of our press to inflame warlike passions. We will not readily believe that society either in England or in America will allow their respective Governments, even if disposed, of which there is no valid proof, to push matters to so disastrous, and, as our children will repeat it, so infamous an extremity, as war between nations so near akin. We watch for tidings from America with feverish anxiety. We pray God that they may be such as will tend to allay rather than exacerbate public irritation in this country. At any rate, let us await them with calmness! Let us not be hounded on to an unnecessary contest by the appeals daily made to our pride and passion! Let it not be drilled into us that this is a quarrel which nothing but instant reparation can stay, or nothing but blood avenge! Let us not get insensibly into the persuasion that we must fight, or forfeit our national self-respect! It is not so, and we ought to be above the possibility of being dragged into the fatal conviction. The dispute between us and America may be settled by peaceful methods—may best be so settled—and whilst such is the case, be the provocation what it may, it will be a crime of the deepest dye for the two countries to go to war with each other.

MARITIME LAW.

MR. COBDEN, in the letter read at the Rochdale dinner, opportunely called attention to the barbarous and uncertain state of international maritime law. For that code, or rather the practice founded upon precedents and Admiralty decisions, the British nation is alone responsible. It ought not to be forgotten that for the last seventy years we have exercised the right during war to seize any seamen on board of vessels sail-

ing under the neutral flag of the United States supposed to be British subjects, and to imprison or impress them in our service without trial or appeal. This arbitrary claim has never been formally surrendered. As Mr. Cobden points out, "in 1812, when we were belligerents, and the United States with eight millions of people were neutral, and after we had for years subjected their vessels to search and seizure—which will now probably be adduced as precedents to justify the recent proceedings on their part—a war broke out on this very question of belligerent rights at sea, which, after two years of mutual slaughter and pillage, was determined by a treaty of peace, in which, by tacit agreement, no allusion was made to the original cause of the war." All the efforts of the Federal Government to obtain from us a recognition of the just rights of neutrals, and a definite code of maritime international law in time of war were without result. When Mr. Webster, as recently as 1842, proposed that England should surrender her claim of impressing British subjects in time of war out of neutral merchant vessels, with a view to prevent future collisions, Lord Ashburton pleaded that he had no instructions on the subject, and that his Government was not then disposed to entertain it. It is not too much to say that if the negotiations then proposed by the American Secretary of State had been entered upon such an outrage as that of the seizure of Messrs. Slidell and Mason on board the Trent could never have occurred.

These historical facts give great force to the American view of the late seizure. Their writers plead that Captain Wilks has only followed the precedents we have established, and never disowned; and that that Federal officer has simply imitated the example of English cruisers in time of war, when America was a neutral Power. If, owing to altered circumstances, the Trent outrage assumes an aspect of special offensiveness, they say, with some justice, that we have ourselves to blame—having refused to alter the maritime code in accordance with the wants of modern society. If international law as applied to neutrals had been clearly defined, there need have been no difference as to the legal merits of the Trent case. As it is, America has one set of precedents, and England another, as bearing on this event. We are, therefore, bound to give a hearing to the arguments of their jurists before proceeding to enforce our views with the point of the sword. To refuse this would be, as Mr. Cobden remarks, "to deny that equality before the law which is the rule of all civilised States, and to arrogate for ourselves, as interested parties, arbitrary and dictatorial powers."

The American claim to decide this question on the principles of international law is further strengthened by what has happened since Mr. Webster's unsuccessful offer to negotiate. "More than five years ago the Government of Washington proposed to the European Powers to exempt private property at sea from capture by armed vessels of every kind,—a proposal which, in his message to Congress, President Pierce stated had been favourably received by Russia and France, but which was rejected by our Government, acting in opposition to the unanimous opinion of the commercial bodies of this country. Subsequently, Mr. Buchanan's Government enlarged this offer by proposing to abolish blockades as far as purely mercantile ports were concerned; but again this met with no favour from our Government." The facts thus stated in Mr. Cobden's letter have been studiously ignored by our bellicose journals. They may not warrant us in submitting to insult to our flag, but they do imperatively require us to practice forbearance, and to listen with favour to General Scott's statement, on behalf of the Federal Government, that they will be only too happy to surrender the Southern Commissioners, if England will consent to such a revision of maritime law "as may establish the rights of belligerents upon a just, humane, and philosophic basis."

There can hardly be a doubt that the reply of the Washington Cabinet to Lord Russell's despatch will not be such a direct refusal of its demands as will be the signal for immediate hostilities. Not desiring war with us, and strongly deprecating it for very sufficient reasons, the Federal Government may be expected to propose either the offer made beforehand by General Scott, or to submit the question of legality to the arbitration of a third party, say the Emperor of Russia, or King of Holland—the prisoners being meanwhile detained in custody.

The response of our Government will probably depend upon the temper of the British public. And when the alternative presented to them will be war with our American kinsmen, with its untold horrors to each belligerent, or peace, with such a revision of international maritime law as will prevent, for all time to come, such outrages as the Trent affair, we have entire confidence which issue will be accepted.

THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.

THE LATEST NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

In his letter of Nov. 22, Mr. Russell says:—

No diplomatic communication has taken place. Messrs. Mason, Slidell, &c., have addressed a kind of protest to the Government, and have also made certain representations with respect to their incarceration; but there has been no official announcement or action of any sort between the Cabinet of Washington and the representative of her Majesty near the person of the President regarding the question. Mr. Seward, I believe, in speaking of the arrest, did not consider it at all necessary to allude to the mode in which the persons of Messrs. Slidell and Mason had been transferred to the custody of the Government, and the subject will doubtless be approached with due caution and reluctance by the State Department; but I have the best reason for thinking General McClellan not only disapproved the conduct of the naval officer who made the capture, but expressed his opinion that the boarding and seizure could not be justified. This intelligence has, indeed, been received with something like consternation by thinking and respectable politicians, and already there are men talking of an "ample apology," and feeble references to the right of search which has been maintained by England, and therefore cannot be, forsooth, objected to by her Government when it is practised by the vessels of a nation which has always refused to recognize it.

Writing on the 25th, the *Times* special correspondent says that all over the country there is a great deal of patting on the back, but increasing disquietude. He thinks that if the opinions of the judges of the land were sought privately they would pronounce against "the bold and patriotic act of Commodore Wilks." The best legal authorities in Washington are against it. But with the moral cowardice which is the result of submission—halfhearted protestation to the force of a majority—men would neither publish nor write nor speak openly what they were free to confess in the study or the conversation corner.

If it were believed really that Great Britain would take any serious notice of the act there would be an immediate panic in the commercial and monetary world which would extend its effects to every class in the Union, from the President who invests his salary in the national loan down to the daily labourer. But there is a sustaining hope that the Cabinet will not do anything, that at the very outside there will be a remonstrance and a lengthy correspondence, which will end as many other matters of protocol and despatch have ended before. As I write there is a rumour that Messrs. Slidell and Mason are to be surrendered. If it be true this Government is broken up. There is so much violence of spirit among the lower orders of the people, and they are so ignorant of everything except their own politics and passions, so saturated with pride and vanity, that any honourable concession, even in this hour of extremity, would prove fatal to its authors. It would certainly render them so unpopular that it would damage them in the conduct of this Civil War.

Edward Everett, George Sumner, and other leading American legal authorities, declare the capture of Messrs. Mason and Slidell to be in accordance with international law.

RECEPTION OF CAPTAIN WILKS AT BOSTON.

Messrs. Mason and Slidell were landed at Fort Warren, Boston Harbour, on the 24th inst. The municipality of Boston waited upon Commander Wilks and tendered him a welcome. In reply to an address from the mayor, Commander Wilks said:—"I am deeply sensible of the great kindness you have shown me; I depended upon my own judgment in doing what you all flatter me was correct, and I am exceedingly gratified with the manifestations of approval I have met, and which have been, I may say, a spontaneous outburst from all parts of our country. I have only to say that we did our duty to the Union, and we are prepared to do it again." This speech was received with immense cheering. A complimentary dinner was given the next day to Commander Wilks at the River House, Boston, when he repeated substantially the statements which have appeared in print with reference to the energetic movements of the San Jacinto, concluding with the fact that his efforts were crowned with success, and he had the satisfaction of taking the ambassadors under his charge.

Previous to his decision to act as he did he consulted all the authorities—Kent, Wheaton, and Vattel—and satisfied himself that written despatches from a belligerent were contraband on a neutral vessel; and he considered that as rebel ambassadors must be the embodiment of despatches, it was his duty to arrest their progress, unless they could show proper passports from the Federal Government. (Laughter and cheers.) This they could not do, and he detained them in his custody. He was satisfied that the Trent was a legal prize, of great value to his ship if taken, but there had been no dissenting voice on board his vessel as to the wisdom of the course he pursued. In the process of the arrests he was glad to say everything was conducted properly, and nothing occurred which would not do honour to the American navy. (Cheers.)

Among the speakers was the Hon. George J. Bigelow, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, and in the course of his remarks he spoke as follows:—

Sophistry must yield to clear reason, and no one can doubt upon a question of this sort; and for my own part, although nothing could be more deplorable than for us to have any issue with England in this great struggle in which we are engaged, I trust, if the issue does come, we are prepared to meet it like men—(loud applause)—that we are not only ready, as citizens of the United States, to endorse the conduct of our gallant officer, but ready to maintain it through the channels

of diplomacy, and, if necessary, at the cannon's mouth. (Loud applause.) We desire peace with all nations at this juncture—we desire peace especially with England; but I trust we shall not buy peace at the cost of our own degradation. (Prolonged and hearty cheering.) Let me conclude these remarks by offering as a sentiment, "The United States and England." We all desire peace with England, but I trust we shall never ask anything that is not right, and we shall never submit to anything that is wrong. (Loud applause.)

MODERATED TONE OF THE AMERICAN PRESS.

The newspapers received by the Edinburgh steamer manifest a wholesome change in the public opinion of New York. All the organs which represent any interest that has the least solidity have evidently been let into the secret that there is nothing to be said for Captain Wilks and his piratical frigate. They are now talking delicately of the affair of the Trent, and even preparing the way for the restitution of the captive Commissioners. There is of course one exception to this moderate spirit. The *New York Herald* still holds that England is only amenable to menace, and sneers at its contemporaries as being "down upon their marrowbones before the British Lion." The *Herald* represents the scum of a great city, which city is but a member of a great democracy. The *New York Times*, the *Tribune*, the *World*, and other papers, represent the doubts and terrors of reasonable men. The following is an extract of a *Tribune* article:—

We have been, and still are, most anxious that our Government should studiously avoid all pretext for hostility on the part of Great Britain pending the settlement of our domestic troubles. We know that the slaveholders' rebellion was plotted and inaugurated in the sanguine hope that cotton and commerce would soon force the British and French Governments to interfere in its behalf; and it is to-day kept alive, in spite of the general misery and squalor it causes throughout the revolted States, and its utter destitution of funds, by that hope. Demolish that to-morrow, and the rebellion could not be kept on its legs through the winter. Now, the Union wants nothing of Europe but that fair play to which treaties and the law of nations entitle us. If the Republic cannot subdue its revolters, let the Republic be dissolved! "Hands off" is all we ask of Europe, and that is our simple due. We do most decidedly want Europe to let us alone. Hence we have regretted that Secretary Seward has not always evinced, in his official and personal intercourse with the British and French ambassadors, that earnest and frank desire to maintain the best understanding with them and their Governments that is the obvious dictate of national interest if not of national safety. We think he should not have hesitated to say to them in acts, if not in words, "Just at present we cannot afford to quarrel with you, and I shall take good care that you have no plausible excuse for quarrelling with us." . . . We have already intimated our hope that Great Britain will claim Mason, Slidell, and their Secretaries, on the ground of the illegality of their capture. We could very well afford even to surrender them, for the sake of the precedent and principle thus established. If Great Britain is ready for a broad acceptance of the principle that free ships make free goods, it does not become us to object. But there must be no juggle in the premises, but the clear and simple recognition of a rule of action henceforth obligatory on both parties. Nothing is more certain than that Great Britain has often acted to our prejudice on the opposite principle to that which she must assert in demanding the liberation of Mason and Slidell. . . . The temper of a portion of the English people is such as probably to render necessary some formal inquiry into the matter, and a demand for explanations. But these will be forthcoming in such abundance, and of such a nature, as will speedily silence all complaints. . . . We once more assure our timorous friends that Great Britain not only has no decent pretext for fastening a quarrel upon us, but that President Lincoln will take good care that she shall not get one, at least till we shall have settled our little account with Jeff and Company.

The *New York World* concludes an article:—

If we must either give up those arch-traitors Mason and Slidell, or let the privateers go unchained, the public voice would require us to keep fast hold of the rebel envoys. But it is not easy to see on what justifiable ground we went on board a British vessel to arrest them, unless we concede a belligerent status to the Southern Confederacy.

THE DESPATCH TO LORD LYONS.

La Patrie publishes the following:—"It is stated (on assure) that the despatch addressed by the British Cabinet to Lord Lyons, to be communicated to President Lincoln, is based exclusively on legal considerations. This document, it is said, establishes that the commander of the San Jacinto, by acting as he has done, has committed a flagrant breach of maritime law and insulted the British flag; that the only right that officer possessed was to compel the Trent to go to some American port, where the case could have been brought before the proper authorities in presence of the English consul. That if, in this search, despatches had been found establishing that MM. Slidell and Mason were on a mission directly or indirectly connected with military operations, the commander would have been justified in seizing those despatches and arresting the envoys, sending in a detailed report of the transactions, with such notes and observations as the English consul might think fit to annex. These formalities not having been fulfilled, no charge could be established against the two persons arrested; their arrest must be regarded as null and non avenue; that the Trent being the victim of an arbitrary act, contrary to every principle, England, acting in a conciliatory and friendly point of view, has asked as only reparation of this grave act the liberation of MM. Slidell and Mason; but that, if she does not obtain it, Lord Lyons would leave Washington with all the members of the Legation. We are assured that the despatch is drawn up with great moderation—that it carefully

avoids any hurtful expression; but that it is firm in its conclusion." The *Globe* thinks that *La Patrie* knows nothing authentic on the subject.

The *Nouveliste de Rouen* asserts that Mr. Slidell's despatches, which the New York journals pretend were seized on board the Trent, have been safely brought to Paris by his secretary, Colonel Leinat, (an American of French origin), and that they were delivered with the seals unbroken to M. Thouvenel.

THE IRISH MALCONTENTS.

A public meeting of an extraordinary character was held in Dublin on Thursday night. It was convened for the purpose of considering the Anglo-American crisis in relation to Irish affairs. The chair was taken by the O'Donoghue, M.P.; but he was not supported by any of his brother members, or by any other public man of position in the country. There was no magistrate, no member of the corporation, no priest, to be seen on the platform, or anywhere in the room. It was altogether a democratic affair of the lowest type. The chairman in the course of his speech, said:—

I suppose I am right in supposing that this is not an indignation meeting (cheers); that we are not met here like abject sycophants to echo the sounds of English wrath, and that we are met here as Irishmen to consult for the safety of Ireland. (Yells and groans.) Now, I feel perfectly certain that the great majority of Irishmen will object to contribute either men or money for the purpose of enabling England to make war with the Northern States. (Enthusiastic cheering.)

Other speakers in the same strain followed, persons of no position, but evidently instructed to appeal to the passions of Irish Americans. Several resolutions were passed, declaring that as the population of America was largely composed of Irishmen, and the Great Republic had given them a generous asylum, Ireland would not be an indifferent spectator to a struggle between England and America; and urging upon all Irishmen the duty of "a united rally for the old cause of their country." A committee to consider the advisability of an organization was appointed. The O'Donoghue was elected chairman of the committee, which is to consist of twenty-one members besides the officers. Division has, however, soon appeared in the camp of the "Nationalists," the committee which convened the meeting having since disavowed the last resolution, appointing a committee, which was, it appears, foisted in at the moment.

OUR NAVAL AND MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

The *Daily News* has been "assured that orders were issued on Monday by Government to put ten frigates into commission, and to man them immediately."

Those two magnificent steamships *Persia* and *Australasian*, belonging to the Cunard fleet, are being rapidly fitted for the conveyance of troops, stores, and ammunition, and it is expected they will be ready to sail hence for Canada about the 14th or 15th inst. Each of them is to carry out a complement of 1,100 soldiers, 5,000 stand of arms, and 300 tons of stores. Besides these, each is to take out a field battery and a large quantity of ammunition. In addition to the two vessels named above, it is understood that negotiations are on foot for securing one or two first-class steamers. The destination of both vessels will probably be the Riviere du Loup or the Island of Bic.

The steam transport *Melbourne*, laden with a heavy freight of war stores for America, sailed from Woolwich on Saturday. As soon as the ship had veered round from her moorings, and was fairly on her course, the spectators gave a hearty "God speed," which was immediately followed by the waving of caps and handkerchiefs and shouts of applause. The shouts then commenced on board, and were repeatedly heard when the *Melbourne* was far down the Thames.

On Friday afternoon a telegraphic despatch was received at the Division-office, Shorncliffe Camp, calling for thirty-six sergeants to volunteer from the various regiments of the division in the south-eastern district for service in Canada as drill instructors to the Canadian Militia.

The Government have purchased for the use of the troops in Canada several thousands of leather waistcoats, of the kind which proved so beneficial in the Crimea during the late war.

The *Emerald*, 51, is to carry out supernumeraries for the West India station. The *Hero*, 89, screw, sailed from Spithead on Sunday for the same station. The *Euryalus*, 51, the *Sutlej*, 51, and the *Meanees*, 81, are ordered to be put in readiness for commission.

Great activity is manifested in the medical as well as in other departments of the service. Inspector-General Muir, Dr. Innes, and a large number of assistants, are under orders for Canada.

The 18th Company of Royal Engineers, under Lord W. Paulet, are ordered to be withdrawn from the Isle of Wight, and to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Canada.

The following is a detail of the several (naval) reserves on the 1st inst.:—Coast-guard on ships' books for shore duty, 232 officers, 3,386 men—3,618. Ships' crews, 227 officers, 1,763 men, and 719 boys—2,709. Tenders' crews, 107 officers, 574 men, and 166 boys—847; marines, 510. Total, 7,174. Old reserve force—26 officers, 1,108 men. Naval Coast Volunteers 7,768. Naval reserve force, 7,440. Total number of men available, 21,231.—*United Service Gazette*. The *Times* says:—"The number of able seamen actually enrolled in the reserve would enable us, with the ordinary addition of hands always procurable, to send to sea at once

thirty line-of-battle ships. The naval reserve is in the most satisfactory condition."

The Hartlepool naval reserve men have followed the example of their brethren at several other ports in expressing their readiness for immediate service.

A *London Gazette Extraordinary* was published on Wednesday night, containing a Royal proclamation, forbidding the exportation from the United Kingdom of arms, ammunition, and military stores of all kinds. An Order in Council prohibits the exportation of the same *materiel* of war from the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark, and the Isle of Man, except by license of the governors of those islands.

We understand that the 100-pounder Armstrong guns, the issue of which had been temporarily suspended during some experiments, will now be again delivered for service.—*Times*.

It is stated that the militia immediately available in Canada number 30,000, and that they may be increased to 200,000.

The Confederate war steamer Nashville went into the graving dock at Southampton on Thursday, to be repaired. The Federal armed mail steamer will, it is expected, come up Southampton Water on Wednesday next, instead of remaining at Cowes; so that the two ships will be "within shot" of each other.

H.M.S. Himalaya, from Portsmouth, arrived at Halifax on the 26th ult.

OPINIONS OF THE FRENCH PRESS.

The *Moniteur*, in its bulletin of Monday, says:—"The American journals credit the idea that England, who until now has been so accommodating to all pretensions of the United States, will yet yield in the affair of the Trent. This arrogance offends British pride, and deters it from any desire to modify the conditions upon which an arrangement may be effected. To know, however, what will take place, it is necessary to await the hour when the illusions of the American people will be dispersed, when they will know pertinently that England demands, before all, reparation and the release of the prisoners."

The *Patrie* asserts that Mr. Seward has declared to Lord Lyons that the Cabinet of Washington adopted the opinions of its legal advisers, who declared the arrest of the Confederate Commissioners to be legal.

The *Pays* denies the statement made by some French papers that President Lincoln had proposed to refer the differences between England and the United States to the mediation of the Emperor Napoleon.

The *Patrie* publishes the following despatch from New York, dated 27th November:—"It is asserted that President Lincoln displays a very conciliatory spirit in the affair of the French merchantman, Jules Marie, which the Federal Government states was boarded by the San Jacinto in consequence of some mistake."

The *Constitutionnel*, *Patrie*, *Journal des Débats*, and several other French papers, say, that in the event of a war between England and America, France would remain neutral.

THE PEACE SOCIETY AND THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.

The committee of the Peace Society have addressed the following letter to the official representatives of all the Christian denominations of this country:—

December, 1861.

Dear Sir,—The committee of the Peace Society have had their attention anxiously engaged in reference to the present critical relations existing between England and the United States of America. Not, certainly, that there is anything in the incident which has recently occurred to require or justify war between two Christian nations. But there is imminent danger lest by mutual exasperation of the public mind they should be hurried into it before reason and religion have had time to assert their authority.

It would be impossible to exaggerate the evils of such a conflict, not merely as regards the moral and material suffering which it would entail upon both countries, but still more in the scandal and reproach it would bring on our common Christianity.

It appears to the committee that the best hope of averting so terrible a calamity lies in bringing the influence of the distinctively Christian element in both communities to bear as widely as possible on that public opinion, which, more than the communications of diplomatists or the counsels of cabinets, must ultimately decide the question of peace or war.

Under these circumstances the committee have thought they might be permitted respectfully to suggest to the various religious bodies in this country the desirableness and the duty of especially addressing kindred bodies on the other side of the Atlantic, with reference to the present conjuncture, so as, if possible, to throw the oil of Christian love on the rising waters of strife. It appears to them quite practicable, without at all entering upon the confessedly difficult questions pending between the two Governments, for those who represent the Christian churches of our land, upon broad grounds of religion and humanity, to speak to their fellow Christians in America in such language and spirit as may, by the blessing of God, be attended with the happiest effects in allaying the dangerous irritation of the moment, and elicit from them a response which may be no less useful in its influence on the public sentiment of our own country.

Surely this must be considered a testing time, a time to prove whether the Christianity of England and America is a principle of any power in influencing the sentiments and feelings of their people so as to aid in giving a calm and wise direction to their international policy.

May we request you, dear sir, to bring this matter with as little delay as possible under the attention of —?

I am, &c.,

JOSEPH PEASE, President,

PRAYER FOR THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE.

The Evangelical Alliance have sent out circulars, calling a general meeting for united prayer in the present crisis of our relations with America, to be held in Exeter-hall, on Thursday next, the 12th inst, at 2.30 p.m. It is understood that the English despatch will, in all probability, reach Washington on Friday or Saturday, and the Alliance invite Christians of all denominations to join, on this occasion, in earnest supplication that peace between the nations may be preserved; and that the strife in America itself may issue in the establishment of righteousness and the spread of liberty. The subject was prominently referred to from several of the metropolitan pulpits on Sunday, and, in some instances, local prayer-meetings have been convened for the same great object.

Lord Shaftesbury has addressed one of the promoters of the meeting for prayer called by the Evangelical Alliance, who had requested his lordship to preside, stating that he highly approves of the purpose, but considers that private and social meetings or small gatherings for prayer would be in every respect preferable, and avoid serious objections.

CHRISTIAN MINISTERS ON WAR.

On Sunday morning, the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon preached a very effective sermon at the newly-erected Tabernacle, selecting for the text of his discourse the 9th verse, 5th chap., Matthew:—"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." The opportunity afforded by the text was made use of by the orator to make special reference to the existing state of affairs between England and America; and while fully recognising the propriety of maintaining the right of Great Britain to afford an asylum to the oppressed of all nations, Mr. Spurgeon very eloquently insisted upon the necessity for calm forbearance towards a great country so intimately allied to us. Mr. Spurgeon wound up a most impressive sermon by referring to the words of the text as applicable to every-day life. The auditory completely filled the immense building.

At Surrey Chapel, on Monday night, the Rev. Newman Hall delivered an admirable address on the American question, to an audience of some 3,000 persons, which completely filled the spacious edifice. The rev. gentleman eloquently expatiated on the criminality and folly of a war between this country and the United States, and pointed out to the working classes especially how completely such a war would be opposed to their interests, and to the progress and civilisation of mankind. He urged that the quarrel was a matter for friendly discussion, and, if needs be, for arbitration, and that instead of employing the language of passion and perpetrating deeds of violence, we should exhibit calmness and forbearance. The sentiments expressed by Mr. Hall met with the hearty approval of his auditory.

ANECDOTES OF THE SEIZURE OF THE TRENT.

A correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes:—"I am told (and the authority of Lieutenant Williams, the officer in charge of the mails aboard the Trent, is quoted for the story) that the captain of the noted privateer Sumter (or, perhaps, rather the captain of the Jefferson Davis) was a passenger in the English steamer when she was overhauled by the San Jacinto, and that he smoked his cigar very quietly among the crowd while the capture was going on. I do not know if he had changed his name for the voyage, or he would have certainly been carried off had the captain produced his list of passengers at the request of Lieutenant Fairfax. The capture of this famous privateersman would have been almost as much a subject of exultation in the North as that of the Southern envoys."

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News*, says he learns from a private source, which can hardly be erroneous, that at the last moment, when Mr. Slidell took leave of his wife on board the Trent, he placed his despatches in her hand in a box loaded with shot, told her to go to her cabin and sit at the port-hole, and if any attempt were made to take the box away from her to drop it into the sea. Mrs. Slidell obeyed these instructions, and consequently deprived herself of taking a last look at her husband on deck. She was not molested, and brought her despatches safely to England.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE ORLEANS PRINCES CALLED HOME.—A Paris correspondent of the *Brussels Indépendance* states that an urgent request has been sent by the ex-Queen Marie Amélie, to the two Orleans Princes serving in the Federal army, to return as quickly as possible to Claremont. "Without taking into consideration," says the writer, "the possibility of France becoming involved in the antagonism between England and the United States, it will be understood that these young Princes could scarcely expose themselves to serve under a flag which has already almost become hostile to England."

THE MAIL SERVICE IN THE EVENT OF WAR.—In a convention concluded between the two countries, dated 15th December, 1848, it is stipulated that, in case of war, the mail packets of the two services shall continue their navigation "without impediment or molestation until six weeks after a notification shall have been made on the part of either of the two Governments."

REPORTED WAR SPEECH OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.—The following is extracted from the letter of the New York Correspondent of the *London American*:—"The President, in his reply to the address of Count Piper, the lately accredited Minister from

Sweden, significantly and not inappropriately remarked:—"This country maintains, and means to maintain, the rights of human nature, and the capacity of man for self-government. And if, in the fulfilment of so glorious a mission, it is to be our destiny for a third time to encounter the open hostility and the hereditary jealousy and prejudices of England, as well as to throttle the rebellion pervading portions of the Southern States in our own midst, be it so. We will meet the shock of battle with Great Britain like freemen, strengthened for the conflict by the remembrance that 'thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just.'" [It appears that the only truth in the foregoing is that Mr. Lincoln received and addressed Count Piper. The rest is pure invention.]

FEELING IN OUR NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.—On Thursday a public meeting was held in Ashton-under-Lyne to hear addresses on the present state of American affairs from the Hon. Joseph Howe, Prime Minister of Nova Scotia; the Hon. John Tilly, of the Cabinet of New Brunswick; and Mr. Edward Watkin, of Manchester. Mr. Hugh Mason was in the chair. The meeting was extremely well attended, and the speakers were very well received. The general tone of the remarks of the first two may be summed up in a few words. They had no sympathy with the Northern States, and a strong wish for the success of the South. They had no desire for war, were quite sure that the colonies would fight for England, if their help was needed, and equally hopeful that England would fight for the colonies, and they were, therefore, of opinion that war ought to be begun, if war were necessary for the honour of England. With the general tenor of these remarks Mr. Watkin concurred.

FRAUDULENT REGISTRATION OF AMERICAN SHIPS.—The *Shipping Gazette* says it is reported certain persons, acting on behalf of American shipowners, are registering in England vessels belonging to the Northern States, which is a fraud upon the registrar of shipping, making themselves liable to an indictment for perjury.

WAR VESSELS FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—The Federal Government are building in England three gun-boats, to be plated with three-inch iron, and one most peculiar sub-marine boat called Stevens's battery, which only shows its six heavy guns on a slight iron ridge just above the water. A full account of this extraordinary vessel, which will probably be ready in a month or two, has already been forwarded to the Admiralty.

OUR SUPPLIES OF GRAIN IN CASE OF WAR.—The *Shipping Gazette* has an article on the question of our corn supplies in the event of war with North America. It does not regard our future prospects with feelings of alarm. Orders for the purchase of nearly 500,000 quarters of wheat have within the last few days been sent to the Black Sea ports, both for present and future shipments. The immediate export could not, of course, be made, but eventually there would be no want of vessels to bring home all the corn we require, and vessels trading to America would be released to bring grain from the south of Russia. The *Shipping Gazette* is perfectly satisfied that our importations of food during the coming year will equal in extent those of the last four or five seasons, though, of course, in order to obtain all we may require, we shall be compelled to pay higher prices than those current.

WHEN NEWS MAY BE EXPECTED.—It appears that the earliest date at which the news of the reception of the British demand by the Washington Cabinet can reach us will be Saturday, the 28th of December. The Cunard steamer which left Queenstown with the despatch to Lord Lyons on Monday week, the 2nd inst., would arrive at Boston about the 14th. The Africa will leave New York on the 18th, and will be due here about the 30th, but a telegram of her news might possibly reach London from Queenstown a day or two earlier.

GENERAL SCOTT ON THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.

The following is a copy of a letter from General Scott, in reply to the anxious inquiries of a friend:—

My dear Sir,—You were right in doubting the declaration imputed to me, to wit: that the Cabinet at Washington had given orders to seize Messrs. Mason and Slidell, even under a neutral flag, for I was not even aware that the Government had had that point under consideration. At the time of my leaving New York it was not known that the San Jacinto had returned to the American seas; and it was generally supposed those persons had escaped to Cuba for the purpose of re-embarking in the Nashville, in pursuit of which vessel the James Adger and other cruisers had been despatched.

I think I can satisfy you in a few words that you have no serious occasion to feel concerned about our relations with England, if, as her rulers profess, she has no disposition to encourage the dissensions in America.

In the first place it is almost superfluous to say to you, that every instinct of prudence as well as of good neighbourhood prompts our Government to regard no honourable sacrifice too great for the preservation of the friendship of Great Britain. This must be obvious to all the world. At no period of our history has her friendship been of more importance to our people, at no period has our Government been in a condition to make greater concessions to preserve it. The two nations are united by interests and sympathies,—commercial, social, political, and religious,—almost as the two arms to one body, and no one is so ignorant as not to know that what harms one, must harm the other in a corresponding degree.

I am persuaded that the British Government can entertain no doubt upon this point, but if it does I feel that I may take it upon myself to say that the President

of the United States, when made aware of its existence, will lose do opportunity of dispelling it.

Nor is there anything, I venture to affirm, in the seizure of these rebel emissaries which ought to receive an unfriendly construction from England. Her statesmen will not question the legal right of an American vessel of war to search any commercial vessel justly suspected of transporting contraband of war: that right has never been surrendered by England,—it was even guaranteed to her by the Treaty of Paris; and British guns frowning down upon nearly every strait and inland sea upon the globe is conclusive evidence that she regards this right as one, the efficacy of which may be not yet entirely exhausted. Of course there is much that is irritating and vexatious in the exercise of this right under the most favourable circumstances, and it is to be hoped the day is not far distant when the maritime States of the world will agree in placing neutral commerce beyond the reach of such vexations. The United States Government has been striving to this end for more than fifty years—to this end, early in the present century, and in its infancy as a nation, it embarked in a war with the greatest naval Power in the world, and it is even now a persistent suitor at every maritime Court in Europe for a more liberal recognition of the rights of neutrals than any of the other great maritime nations have yet been disposed to make. But till those rights are secured by proper international guarantees upon a comprehensive and enduring basis, of course England cannot complain of an act for which in all its material bearings her own naval history affords such numerous precedents.

Whether the captives from the Trent were contraband of war or not, is a question which the two Governments can have no serious difficulty in agreeing upon. If Mr. Seward cannot satisfy Earl Russell that they were, I have no doubt Earl Russell will be able to satisfy Mr. Seward that they were not. If they were—as all authorities concur in admitting—agents of the rebellion, it will be difficult to satisfy impartial minds that they were any less contraband than a file of rebel soldiers or a battery of hostile cannon.

But even should there be a difference of opinion upon this point, it is very clear that our Government had sufficient grounds for presuming itself in the right, to escape the suspicion of having wantonly violated the relations of amity which the two countries profess a desire to preserve and cultivate.

The pretence that we ought to have taken the Trent into port, and had her condemned by a prize court, in order to justify our seizure of four of her passengers, furnishes a very narrow basis on which to fix a serious controversy between two great nations. Stated in other words, an offence would have been less if it had been greater. The wrong done to the British flag would have been mitigated if, instead of seizing the four rebels, we had seized the ship, detained all her passengers for weeks, and confiscated her cargo. I am not surprised that Captain Wilks took a very different view of his duty, and of what was due to the friendly relations which subsisted between the two Governments. The renowned common sense of the English people, I believe, will approve of his effort to make the discharge of a very unpleasant duty as little vexatious as possible to all innocent parties.

If under these circumstances England should deem it her duty in the interest of civilisation to insist upon the restoration of the men taken from under the protection of her flag, it will be from a conviction, without doubt, that the law of nations in regard to the rights of neutrals, which she has taken the leading part in establishing, requires revision, and with a suitable disposition on her part to establish those rights on a just humane, and philosophic basis. Indeed, I am happy to see an intimation in one of the leading metropolitan journals which goes far to justify this inference. Referring to the decisions of the English Admiralty Courts now quoted in defence of the seizure of the American rebels on board the Trent, the London Times of the 28th Nov. says:—

"So far as the authorities go, the testimony of international law-writers is all one way, that a belligerent war cruiser has the right to stop and visit and search any merchant ship upon the high seas. . . . But it must be remembered that these decisions were given under circumstances very different from those which now occur. Steamers in those days did not exist and mail vessels carrying letters wherein all the nations of the world have immediate interest, were unknown. We were fighting for existence, and we did in those days what we should neither do nor allow others to do, nor expect ourselves to be allowed to do in these days."

If England, as we are here encouraged to hope, is disposed to do her part in stripping war of half its horrors by accepting the policy long and persistently urged upon her by our Government, and commended by every principle of justice and humanity, she will find no ground, in the visit of the Trent, for controversy with our Government. I am sure the President and people of the United States would be but too happy to let these men go free, unnatural and unpardonable as their offences have been, if by it they could emancipate the commerce of the world. Greatly as it would be to our disadvantage at this present crisis to surrender any of those maritime privileges of belligerents which are sanctioned by the laws of nations, I feel that I take no responsibility in saying that the United States will be faithful to her traditional policy upon this subject, and to the spirit of her political institutions.

On the other hand should England be unprepared to make a corresponding sacrifice; should she feel that she could not yet afford to surrender the advantages which the present maritime code gives to a dominant naval power, of course she will not put herself in a false position by asking us to do it. In either case, therefore, I do not see how the friendly relations of the two Governments are in any immediate danger of being disturbed.

That the over-prompt recognition, as belligerents, of a body of men, however large, so long as they constituted a manifest minority of the nation, wounded the feelings of my countrymen deeply, I will not affect to deny, nor that that act, with some of its logical consequences which have already occurred, has planted in the breasts of many the suspicion that their kindred in England wish them evil rather than good, but the statesmen to whom the political interest of these two great people are confided, act upon higher responsibilities and with better lights, and you may rest assured that an event so mutually disastrous as a war between England and

America, cannot occur without some other and graver provocation than has yet been given by either nation.

WINFIELD SCOTT.
Hotel Westminster, Paris, Dec. 2, 1861.
To ———, Esq.

MR. BRIGHT ON AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

Mr. Bright, M.P., was entertained at a dinner by his fellow-townsmen, at the Rochdale Public Hall, on Wednesday evening. There were about 250 gentlemen present, amongst whom were Mr. Bazley, M.P., Mr. George Wilson, and the Mayor of Manchester. The galleries were occupied by ladies.

The Mayor of ROCHDALE presided, and gave in succession the toasts of "The Queen," "The Houses of Parliament," and "The Health of Mr. Cobden, M.P.," all of which were cordially received. In the course of his address, in proposing Mr. Cobden's health, the Chairman read the letter on the American difficulty from that gentleman, given in a separate column.

Mr. BRIGHT, on rising to reply to the toast of his health, was received with great enthusiasm. His speech, after a brief acknowledgment of their kindness to himself, was entirely devoted to the subject of the war in America.

That struggle was one of the highest interest to England and humanity at large. Eighty-five years ago they were colonies sprung from this country, and already numbering a population of three million souls. A year ago they were the United States of America, and comprised thirty millions of people. In agriculture and manufactures no country in the world except our own could be placed in comparison with them. They were equally distinguished for their inventions, their enterprises, their schools, their prisons, and their religious establishments. The public expenditure of these United States was 23,000,000*l.* a-year, and they were able to boast an amount of comfort, prosperity, and abounding plenty such as no other country in any age has displayed. But there was another side. While this country secured the utmost liberty for the white population, it held the black population in bondage and degradation. England sowed the seeds of the slavery system. Jefferson, two years before the Declaration of Independence, issued a protest against the conduct and policy of the British Government, in preventing the colonists from forbidding the importation of fresh negroes from Africa. Ultimately every State was left to legislate on slavery for itself. But the growth of cotton has increased since that time, and become an article of value to an extent which no man dreamt of when Jefferson wrote. And this cotton, cultivated under the slavery system, now threatened the overthrow of that which is a million times more valuable—the great Republic of the United States.

Mr. Bright then referred to the act of secession on the part of the South.

Newspapers say this question of secession was much like that which occurred when the colonies revolted against the mother country. The question in 1780 was whether a corrupt Ministry in Downing-street and a borough-mongering Parliament in Westminster should tax three millions of unrepresented colonists without their consent. Now the representation of the South in the American Legislature was not only complete, but in excess. Three out of every five slaves are counted as white men, and the consequence is, that the South has returned about twenty more members than it had a natural right to do. This shows that there was no similarity between the two cases. Another reason for the secession, alleged on this side, is the protective tariff. No American, however, attributes the dissolution of the Union to that cause. The South has been dominant during the whole period since the Declaration of Independence, and the tariff has existed during that time. There have, no doubt, been occasional symptoms of dissatisfaction; but when Congress met a twelvemonth ago to discover how the Union could be maintained, among all the compromises suggested the question of the tariff was never referred to. Whatever the influence of the tariff may be, it must also be remembered that it is as pernicious to the West as to the South, but the West has not seceded. The question is not one of protection or free-trade. It is of a different and graver character. For thirty years slavery has been constantly coming to the surface as the difficulty of American politicians. The object of the South in seceding is to escape from the votes of those who wish to limit the area of slave territory.

What course, asked Mr. Bright, should England pursue? We should be neutral; we were neutral in Italy, but were not neutral in sympathy; and, although no English ships or soldiers appeared on the shores of that country, the sympathy of England was spoken of in Europe, and did much to aid the establishment of the free Italian kingdom. Mr. Bright then argued that we had not given a similar cordial sympathy to the people of the Northern States of America, although one or two statesmen, as, for instance, the Duke of Argyll and Lord Stanley, had spoken with liberality, fairness, and friendliness of the United States.

Earl Russell, however, at Newcastle, had misrepresented the question, when he said the North were contending for empire, and the South for independence; and the leading journal, since Mr. Lincoln took office, had not published one fair, honourable, and friendly article on American affairs. It was asked why should there be war; why this fratricidal strife; why should the North and South not separate peaceably? Throughout, he thought there were insurmountable geographical obstacles to a separation, as well as strong political objections. If the Northern States had done what some newspaper writers advised, and had allowed the South to withdraw from the Union without making any effort to retain them, we should have been told that democracy was a failure, and that the Northern Government was guilty of cowardice and worthy only of unmeasured contempt. These candid friends tell us American freedom is gone, the Habeas Corpus Act has been suspended, and other laws and liberties have been endangered. But, had we not suspended the Habeas Corpus Act our-

selves during the Irish rebellion of 1848? and if an insurgent army were encamped within sight of London, what regard would Government have for the personal liberty of the subject in any measures they took for securing the safety of the State? We are told that it would be better for us if the United States were divided, and Sir Edward Lytton had predicted that there would ultimately be four or five separate nations or federations. The former he considered a mean argument, and as for the latter he would far rather see the whole of that vast Continent combined in one great federation of states, where there would be no custom houses, but freedom everywhere—equality everywhere—law everywhere—and room for the expanding energies of our race.

Referring to the seizure of the Confederate Commissioners, he said:—

He considered the act both impolitic and bad; but it may turn out to be wholly unauthorised by the American Government, and in this case there is no doubt they would make ample reparation. No Government had evinced a greater desire to be guided by wise and moderate counsels in the construction of cases under the maritime law. It is said this is only one of a series of acts showing ill-will on the part of the North. There will be irritating accidents in the course of this struggle. Let us be calm. Recollect how we were dragged into the Russian war. We drifted into it. It cost one hundred million pounds—it cost the lives of forty thousand Englishmen—it injured our trade—it doubled the armies of Europe, and it did not accomplish a single thing that was promised. Statesmen now said, in exultation, "What could we do in the frenzy of the public mind at that time?" Don't let them add to the frenzy, and don't let us be driven.

Mr. Bright then read an extract from General Scott's letter, which was loudly cheered, and concluded:—

During the fifteen years from 1845 or 1846 to 1859 or 1860, a time so recent that we all remember the events, even the most trivial circumstances that have happened in that time—during those fifteen years more than 2,320,000 persons left the shores of the United Kingdom as emigrants for the States of North America. At this very moment, then, there are millions in the United States who personally, or whose immediate parents, have at one time been citizens of this country, and perhaps known to some of the oldest of those whom I am now addressing. They found a home in the far west; they subdued the wilderness; they met with plenty there which was not afforded them in their native country; and they are become a great people. There may be those persons in England who are jealous of the States; there may be men who dislike democracy, who hate a republic; there may be even those whose sympathies warm towards the slave oligarchy of the South: but of this I am certain, that only misrepresentation the most gross, or calumny the most wicked, can sever the tie which unites the great mass of the people of this country with their friends and brethren beyond the Atlantic. (Loud cheers.) Whether the Union will be restored or not, or the South will achieve an unhonoured independence or not, I know not, and I predict not. But this I think I know—that in a few years, a very few years, the twenty millions of free men in the North will be thirty millions, or even fifty millions—a population equal to or exceeding that of this kingdom. (Hear, hear.) When that time comes, I pray that it may not be said among them that in the darkest hour of their country's trials, England, the land of their fathers, looked on with icy coldness, and saw unmoved the perils and the calamities of her children. (Cheers.) As for me, I have but this to say, I am one in this audience, and but one in the citizenship of this country; but if all other tongues are silent, mine shall speak for that policy which gives hope to the bondsmen of the South, and tends to generous thoughts, and generous words, and generous deeds between the two great nations that speak the English language, and from their origin are alike entitled to the English name. (Great cheering.)

The proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

MR. COBDEN ON THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.

The following letter from Mr. Cobden was read at the dinner given to Mr. Bright at Rochdale on Wednesday last:—

Midhurst, 2nd Dec., 1861.

Dear Sir,—I need not assure you with what pleasure I should accept your invitation to be present at the entertainment which is to be offered by his neighbours to my friend Mr. Bright. It tempts me sorely, and yet I will not break the rule by which I have prohibited myself from attending any public meeting this winter, with the view of husbanding my health for the labours of the coming season.

The circumstances of the present moment make me regret my inability to meet my constituents. I should have been glad to have expressed my views on the public questions of the day, especially in reference to our relations with the United States, to which a recent event has given a sudden importance. I allude, of course, to the capture of Messrs. Slidell and Mason on board a British steamer. On this subject I should have urged the propriety of suspending a final judgment until we had had time to hear whether the American Government had authorised this act of their naval officer, and if so, on what ground they justified the proceeding.

I have seen with some surprise the assumption in certain quarters that, from the moment when our legal authorities have given their opinion on the point at issue, the question is settled, and that we have only to proceed to enforce their award. It is forgotten that the matter in dispute must be decided, not by British, but by international law; and that if the President's Government should assume the responsibility of the act of their naval officer they will claim for the reasoning and the precedents urged by their legal advisers at Washington the same consideration which they are bound to give to the arguments of the law officers of the British Crown. To refuse this would be to deny that equality before the law which is the rule of all civilised States, and to arrogate for ourselves, as interested parties, arbitrary and dictatorial powers. Had I been able to meet my constituents, I should have in their name, and with, I know, their full concurrence, repudiated the language of those public

writers who, without waiting till both parties have had a hearing, have given utterance to threats which, if they are to be supposed to emanate from the British people, must render compliance on the part of the American Government difficult, if not impossible.

Whatever be the issue of the legal controversy, this is a question which we cannot hope to bring to a more satisfactory issue by an appeal to arms. We endeavoured to impose our laws by force on the Americans when they were three millions of colonists, and we know the result. Again, in 1812, when we were belligerents, and the United States with eight millions of people were neutral, and after we had for years subjected their vessels to search and seizure—which will now probably be adduced as precedents to justify the recent proceedings on their part—a war broke out on this very question of belligerent rights at sea, which, after two years of mutual slaughter and pillage, was terminated by a treaty of peace, in which, by tacit agreement, no allusion was made to the original cause of the war. With these examples, can we reasonably hope by force of arms to compel the 20,000,000 of Americans who are now united under the Federal Government to accept our exclusive interpretation of the law of nations?

Besides the mere settlement of the question of the Trent does not dispose of our difficulties and dangers. We require a complete revision of the international maritime code, with a view to its simplification, and to bring it into harmony with the altered circumstances of the age; and to this, it must in justice be admitted, the Americans have not been the obstacle. More than five years ago the Government of Washington proposed to the European Powers to exempt private property at sea from capture by armed vessels of every kind,—a proposal which, in his message to Congress, President Pierce stated had been favourably received by Russia and France, but which was rejected by our Government, acting in opposition to the unanimous opinion of the commercial bodies of this country. Subsequently, Mr. Buchanan's Government enlarged this offer by proposing to abolish blockades as far as purely mercantile parts were concerned; but again this met with no favour from our Government. The details of this plan are but imperfectly known, as no official documents have been given to the British public. But after perusing the statement made by our Foreign Minister in the House of Commons on the 18th of February last, the painful impression is left on my mind that had this offer of the United States' Government, instead of being opposed, been promptly and frankly accepted by England, our commerce with the Southern ports of that country might have at this moment been uninterrupted, and Lancashire would hardly have felt any inconvenience from the civil war in America. I was absent from Parliament when these great questions were incidentally referred to, for all serious discussion on the subject seems to have been discouraged by the Government; but I think I shall be able to show on a future occasion that no other country is interested to half the extent of England in carrying out these propositions of the United States Government. I would go a step further, and exempt from visitation, search, and obstruction of every kind, all neutral merchant ships on the ocean or open sea, in time of war as well as in time of peace. The commerce of the world has become too vast and its movements too rapid to permit of merchant vessels of all nations being everywhere liable to search and detention, merely because two Powers in some quarter of the globe choose to be at war. This state of things might have been endured some centuries ago, when war was regarded as the normal state of society, and when the neutrality of a great power was almost unknown; but it is utterly intolerable in an age of steam navigation and free trade. But let it not be forgotten by the British public, in the present moment of irritation, that England has always been, and still is, the great obstacle to a liberal and humane modification of the maritime law of nations in the interest of neutrals, and that her assent alone is wanting to sweep the musty maxims of Puffendorf and the rest into that oblivion which has happily engulfed the kindred absurdities of Protection.

I will not attempt within the space of a letter to touch upon the other issues involved in this deplorable civil war. There is one point only on which I will add a remark. An opinion seems to be entertained by some parties, here and on the Continent, that it is in the power of the Governments of France and England to control, if not put an end to, the conflict. I entertain the strongest conviction, on the contrary, that any act of intervention on the part of a European Power, whether by breaking the blockade, or a premature acknowledgment of the independence of the South, or in any other way, can have no other effect but to aggravate and protract the quarrel. History tells us how greatly the horrors of the French revolution sprang from the intervention of the foreigner. Were a similar element thrown into infuriate the American contest, every restraining motive for forbearance, every thought of compromise or conciliation would be cast to the winds,—the North would avail itself of the horrible weapon always ready at hand, and by calling in the aid of the negro would carry the fire and sword of a servile war into the South, and make it a desolation and a wilderness. So far from expecting that the raw material of our great industry would reach us sooner in consequence of such an intervention, I believe the more probable result would be the destruction of the cotton plant itself throughout the Southern States of the Union.

I cannot conclude without thanking you for your kind offer of hospitality; and I remain, my dear Sir, yours very truly,

RICHARD COBDEN.

John T. Pagan, Esq., Mayor.

MP'S ON THE QUESTION OF THE DAY.

On Monday evening Mr. BRIGHT addressed a very interesting meeting of the Working Men's Educational Institute at Rochdale. The hon. gentleman, who presented the prizes, delivered an interesting and familiar speech on popular education, pointing out the kind of knowledge which was likely to render the most substantial service to the youth of both sexes, and urging them also to take an interest as citizens in the public affairs of their country. He spoke of grammar as a most profitless study:—

When I was at school, which is a long time ago, we

learnt a grammar written by a gentleman who was, I believe, a member of the religious society to which I belong, and who was a native of the United States of America—Lindley Murray. Lindley Murray's grammar had a great reputation then, and for anything I know has so yet; but, if it has, I pity the lads that have to learn it as I had to learn it (laughter); for, as far as I can recollect—and, no doubt, it is but a cloudy sort of recollection that I have—there was no end of rules and no end of examples—rules within rules and exceptions of all kinds; and I have now a feeling of the utter confusion of my mind in endeavouring to understand all the rules of "Lindley Murray's Grammar." (Laughter.) My opinion is that grammar may be very easily learnt without all that; and that it is very difficult for any person who reads well-written books, and understands them, not to acquire a very competent knowledge of grammar without finding it necessary to learn all the rules in that celebrated but unhappy book. (Laughter.)

He spoke in terms of admiration of the reading-room and library connected with the great local Co-operative Society, and also touched upon the war in America, remarking that the evil results of the stoppage of our supply of cotton afforded an example of the mischief resulting from a want of forethought and instruction.

A banquet was given to the members for Nottingham on Thursday. We should rather say "member," as Mr. Mellor, by his elevation to the bench, has ceased to represent the borough, although he occupied his seat when the banquet was originally planned. Mr. PAGET was present, and reviewed the events of the Session at great length. In his remarks on the American question he expressed his opinion that the unfriendly tone of a portion of the press of that country towards England was the work of a foreign element, and did not represent the opinions of the Americans themselves. He spoke emphatically in favour of Hungarian independence, and indulged in some reminiscences of his recent visit to that unfortunate country. The people, who in their habits and feelings were more like Englishmen than any other nation he had ever met with, were determined to resist passively all the despotic acts of Austria. If ever a foreign army should march into Austria and furnish arms to the Hungarians, he predicted that the empire would be broken up, because one-half of the Austrian army was composed of Hungarians, and many of those who were not now in the ranks had previously been obliged to serve in them. "The health of Mr. Justice Mellor" was drunk, and Mr. Mellor, jun., responded in his name.

On Thursday night Lord Fermoy and Mr. Harvey Lewis met the electors of Marylebone, at Hall's Riding-School, Albany-street. Both members (after adverting to general topics) referred at length to the American question.

Lord FERMOY said he was no jurist, but reason and common sense told him that the deck of every Queen's ship was as much an asylum for the oppressed as any broad acre in this kingdom. (Loud cheers, and a Voice—"The Trent was not a Queen's ship.") If it was not a Queen's ship, what was it? It had a Queen's officer in charge of the mails.

Every officer wore the British uniform, and the glorious meteor flag, which never waved save over the disenthralled and the free, was flying at the masthead. The Trent was a Queen's ship. (Cheers.) If the American Ministry had been mad enough to direct, and were mad enough to persist in this aggression, he could not but believe that the Congress now meeting would hurl them from power and would not drive this country to extremity. On the other hand, if redress were refused, we were prepared. Let no one say that the honour of the English flag was not dear to the heart of every Englishman. (Cheers.) Englishmen, and Irishmen too (cheers), would stand by their country.

Mr. HARVEY LEWIS spoke to the same effect, only with a stronger animus against the North. It could hardly have been supposed that a nation professedly civilised would have so outraged the law of nations as was the case in regard to the seizure on board the Trent. The Confederate Commissioners were said to be rebels. (A Voice—"So they are.") Then, if so, they had a right to that asylum which the British flag had always extended to political offenders. (Cheers.) The unanimity of the English press upon this question had only been equalled by the unanimity of the English people, and while all prayed that the inestimable blessing of peace might be preserved, he was sure that "peace at any price" was not the desire of the nation. (Cheers.)

Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR, who presided at the annual dinner of the Sherborne Agricultural Society, spoke in a very different tone of the American difficulty. He advocated forbearance.

Living in the 19th century, and in these civilised times, he said, it was our duty, as far as we possibly could, to avoid entering into a quarrel, although we knew how well we should behave when once in. While it was most improbable the opinion of any dispassionate person could be against us—while it was almost certain we had suffered wrong at the hands of America, and if full and instant reparation be not given for the injuries we have received, still we should be adding to our strength, and adding to our reputation for forbearance, if we took the opinion of some independent third party. Then our position would be stronger; and if America refused to give reparation after that, we should instantly resort to force, and never lay down our arms as long as we had power to wield them in a just cause. And he was certain they would be considered as out of the pale of civilisation, and as a lawless mob instead of a nation, in declining to listen to a dispassionate arbiter. (Applause.)

Mr. WILLIAMS addressed his constituents at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on Monday night. The hon. gentleman's speech was, for the most part, a review of the leading events of the last session. He alluded in very conciliatory language to the difficulty

with America, which he earnestly hoped would be peacefully settled. A vote of confidence in the hon. gentleman was passed with great cordiality. A resolution in favour of referring the American question to arbitration was also adopted with much enthusiasm.

THE FRENCH AND THE ENGLISH NAVIES.

(From the *Herald of Peace*.)

The main charge brought against the Emperor of the French which has any bearing on this country is that he has been making prodigious efforts so to increase his navy as to equal or even exceed our own. Now, the best answer to that is to show a comparison of the number of men voted for, and the amount of money expended on, the English and French navies for the last five-and-twenty years. But, before doing so, we want very emphatically to draw attention to the fact that we do not derive the French figures from the *Estimates* laid before the Chambers. These are known and admitted on all hands not to represent the full amounts expended on the different departments, because by that power of opening extraordinary or supplementary credits hitherto possessed by the executive in France, but now relinquished by the Emperor, the sums voted by the legislative body might be largely increased afterwards. But the figures we are about to submit to our readers are taken from what is called the *Règlement Définitif des Budgets*, that is the accounts after they have passed the final audit of the *Cour des Comptes*, and as they are recorded in the *Bulletin des Lois*. For this audited account we have to wait two years, and it is during this delay that the supplementary credits and transfers take place. But everything is finally allocated to each department before the accounts are audited, after which they are immutable. Our figures, we repeat, are taken from the last authoritative audit, and therefore include the additions made to the original estimates by every kind of extraordinary or supplementary credit whatever. We have, then, before us, perfectly fair materials for instituting a comparison.

MEN AND MONEY VOTED FOR FRENCH AND ENGLISH NAVIES FROM 1835 TO 1860.

FRENCH NAVY.			ENGLISH NAVY.		
	MEN.	MONEY.	MEN.	MONEY.	
		£		£	
1835	16,628	2,506,857	26,041	4,245,723	
1836	21,685	2,740,755	30,195	4,533,543	
1837	23,812	2,666,718	31,289	4,788,781	
1838	24,500	2,872,055	32,028	4,811,990	
1839	25,457	3,178,772	34,857	5,197,511	
1840	33,107	3,964,122	37,665	5,821,074	
1841	40,171	4,998,568	41,389	6,805,351	
1842	36,416	5,224,588	48,105	6,818,173	
1843	31,345	4,787,518	40,229	6,382,900	
1844	30,240	4,885,388	38,343	6,250,120	
1845	28,979	4,800,388	40,084	6,943,720	
1846	30,070	4,439,558	43,814	7,803,465	
1847	32,169	6,120,516	44,969	8,013,873	
1848	28,760	5,957,882	43,978	7,922,287	
1849	27,063	4,991,363	39,535	6,942,397	
1850	24,679	4,195,164	39,093	6,437,883	
1851	22,316	4,041,210	38,957	5,849,917	
1852	25,016	4,320,633	40,451	6,625,944	
1853	28,513	4,844,731	45,885	6,640,596	
1854	48,812	7,962,905	61,457	12,182,769	
1855	54,479	9,657,763	67,791	19,014,708	
1856	40,882	9,928,748	60,659	16,013,995	
1857	29,289	5,754,195	53,919	10,390,000	
1858	29,602	5,837,060	55, 83	10,029,047	
1859	30,008	8,333,933†	62,400	11,072,248	
1860	30,588‡	5,944,364	84,100	12,991,688	

Now this very instructive table shows us several things. It shows us first, that the naval forces and expenditure of the two countries are regulated in their rise or fall, with a reference to each other. Secondly, that though they oscillate considerably, the tendency is to a steady and rapid increase, illustrating in a very edifying way the operation of that system of ruinous rivalry of which we have been speaking. Thirdly, that generally speaking the increase has been larger on the side of England than that of France. And, fourthly, that this is notably the case during the ten years that the present Emperor has been in power, and during which, according to the prevalent imagination in this country, he has been outstripping us by prodigious strides in his naval preparations.

The simple fact is, that however it may now suit the purpose of those whose object it is to promote an unlimited military expenditure, to assert that this is a necessity imposed upon us by the reign or by the policy of the present Emperor of the French, the assertion is wholly belied by the fact. The same class who are making the name of Napoleon a pretext for creating such a fright among the people of this country as shall make them careless of their pockets, were not less strenuous in promulgating suspicion and hatred of France before he came to the throne, and would, we have no doubt, be equally strenuous in doing the same, if he were dethroned and superseded by another dynasty, or another form of Government. They now affect to look back with regret to constitutional monarchy under Louis Philippe, as having afforded an assurance of peace to Europe. But how did they speak and act while that state of things lasted? We have lately taken the trouble to look through the back volumes of the leading military periodical in this country, the *United Service Magazine*, during the period to which we have referred. And what do we find? Precisely the same thing as we find now—the

* Years of the Russian War. † Year of the Italian War.

‡ This is taken from the estimates, the *règlement définitif* not having been yet made up for 1860.

same rhapsodical declamation on the perilous condition of Europe—the same vague accusations about the ambitious and aggressive policy of France—the same gross exaggerations of her warlike preparations—the same mingled tone of apprehension and defiance as regards our neighbours, by which England has been degraded in the eyes of Europe for the last ten years.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

FINSBURY.—Mr. Cox, the late member, has finally been induced to come forward. His resolution was announced at a recent large meeting at Cowper-street School-room, City-road. On Monday he addressed the Islington electors in Myddelton Hall. The meeting was a large one, and the hon. candidate was honoured with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Connell, a Common Councilman, occupied the chair. Mr. Cox said his principal object in responding to the call which had been made upon him was to give the people of Finsbury an opportunity of vindicating themselves through him from the false and odious aspersion which had been cast upon them during the last few days by numerous public writers and speakers, viz., that no person could hope to represent them in Parliament unless he was prepared to spend between 3,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* among them. (Hear, hear.) At a private meeting of his friends on Friday night he declared that he would not pay one farthing beyond the legal expenses of the election, and he intended to abide by that statement. (Cheers.) In the course of an explanation of his political principles, Mr. Cox said that he was for the entire abolition of compulsory Church-rates, and should always be found advocating the great principles of civil and religious liberty for all classes, without distinction of creed, denomination, or country. (Cheers.) A resolution declaring Mr. Cox to be a fit and proper person to represent the borough was moved and seconded, and carried unanimously.—Mr. Mills has addressed various meetings during the week.—The Conservative Association are on the look out for a candidate, and meanwhile the electors are to be requested not to pledge themselves to either of the two candidates now in the field, as an opportunity will be afforded them to record their votes for a Conservative.

EAST WORCESTERSHIRE.—The nomination is fixed for Saturday next. Mr. H. F. Vernon, the only candidate, is still on his wedding tour on the continent, but is expected home in a few days. There will be no opposition to his return.

NOTTINGHAM.—There has been a host of candidates mentioned on the Liberal side at a meeting of Liberal electors. Mr. John Cheetham, of Staleybridge, was the favourite. Mr. Browne, solicitor, thought the claims of Mr. Miall to their attention ought not to be overlooked. Sir J. Walsley was also mentioned, but both he and Mr. Miall were put aside, in consequence of their unwillingness to spend any money on electoral contests. A unanimous vote was afterwards given to invite Mr. Cheetham; that gentlemen has, however, refused to come forward. At a second meeting of Liberal Electors, the claims of Lord Lincoln were brought forward, as also those of Captain Denman and Mr. John Marshman, the brother-in-law of the late General Havelock. The latter gentleman was said to be a thoroughgoing Liberal, possessed of ample means, and had an intimate knowledge of our Indian empire. Captain Denman's claims rest on the "soundness" of his political principles, being those of his father, Lord Denman, who was formerly member for Nottingham. Upon a show of hands, however, Lord Lincoln had the majority, and was accordingly accepted. His lordship has issued an address, in which he says:—

Though at the present moment there is no urgent demand in any class for large measures of alteration in the constitution of the House of Commons, still, looking at the educational progress of the country, I would give my cordial support for the extension of the franchise to those classes whose increasing intelligence entitles them to its exercise. I would advocate economy in the public expenditure, so far as is consistent with the proper maintenance of those military and naval establishments, without which a great nation like our own must be exposed to constant and mischievous alarm. Sincerely attached to the doctrines of the Church of England, I fully recognise in all the rights of conscience, and my earnest desire would be to see my dissenting brethren relieved from imposts to which they feel religious objections. In every way in my power I should desire to further and promote the blessings of civil and religious liberty. In the present threatening aspect of affairs in America, I think the government has pursued a course which must be highly approved by every Englishman, as best calculated to preserve the blessings of peace. That war may yet be averted must be the prayer of all; but, for the sake of liberty and civilisation, the honour of the flag of England must at all risks be maintained unsullied.

Now there are two Liberals in the field, Lord Lincoln and Sir R. Clifton. It is thought that Mr. Bromley will decline to stand on the Conservative side, and that Mr. William Tidmas, formerly a surgeon, but now a large lace manufacturer, of Carrington, near Nottingham, will take his place. In his address, Sir R. Clifton says:—

I am prepared to vote for the ballot; not that I prefer secret to open voting, for its own sake, but that I regard the ballot as a requisite protection to the dependent voter. Although a Churchman, I am opposed to the compulsory exaction of Church-rates from my Dissenting fellow-countrymen, and will vote against the continuance of that injustice.

BIRKENHEAD.—The nomination for the new seat at Birkenhead took place on Monday. The candidates were Mr. Laird, the Conservative, and Mr. Brassey, the Liberal. Mr. Laird said he was in

favour of compromise on the Church-rate question; Mr. Brassey would vote for Sir. John Trelawny's bill. The show of hands was largely in favour of the latter.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The following are lists of candidates who passed the respective examinations indicated:—

SECOND B.A. EXAMINATION, 1861.—EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.—Thomas Dale (University scholarship), Trinity, Cambridge; Benjamin Kisch, University; Alfred Holborn, New.

CLASSICS.—Jno. Watton Teevan (University scholarship), Trinity Hall, Cambridge; Thomas George Rooke, Regent's-park; John Wallace, St. Edmund's; Charles Trice Martin, University.

LOGIC AND MORAL PHILOSOPHY.—Thomas George Rooke, Regent's-park (deserving of scholarship, but precluded by age); Mr. Alliot Wells (University scholarship), Spring-hill; Henry von der Heyde Cowell, Regent's-park; Rayner Winterbotham, University; Elim Henry d'Avigdor, University, and John Williams, Regent's-park, equal; Nathaniel Nathan, University; Arthur Bellamy, King's; Thomas Charles Edwards, Calvinistic, Bala.

CHEMISTRY.—John Wale Hicks (prize), St. Thomas's Hospital.

ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY.—John Wale Hicks (prize), St. Thomas's Hospital; Thomas George Rooke, Regent's-park; Edward Weedon Winterbotham, University; Alfred Holborn, New, and Henry Lakin Smith, University (equal).

VEGETABLE PHYSIOLOGY AND STRUCTURAL BOTANY.—John Wale Hicks, St. Thomas's Hospital.

EXAMINATIONS IN THE HEBREW TEXT OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, IN THE GREEK TEXT OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, IN THE EVIDENCES OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION, AND IN SCRIPTURE HISTORY.—FIRST EXAMINATION.

FIRST CLASS.—Walter Hardie, New; William Jardine, Regent's-park.

SECOND CLASS.—William Joseph Fertell, Owens; Richard Vickerman Taylor, University and King's.

FURTHER EXAMINATION.

FIRST CLASS.—Francis Bolton, Spring-hill; Rev. Benjamin Plummer Pratten, Baptist, Bristol.

SECOND B. SC. EXAMINATION, 1861.—EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

LOGIC AND MORAL PHILOSOPHY.—John Wm. Bell (University scholarship), Trinity College, Dublin.

GEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY.—John Comyns Leach (University scholarship), University College.

SECOND M.B. EXAMINATION, 1861.—EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

PHYSIOLOGY AND COMPARATIVE ANATOMY.—Charles Hilton Fagge (Scholarship and Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital; Frederick Victor Dickens (Gold Medal), Manchester Royal Infirmary; John Henry Galton, Guy's Hospital; James Bankart, Guy's Hospital; Frank Buszard, Guy's Hospital.

SURGERY.—James Bankart (Scholarship and Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital; Charles Hilton Fagge (Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital; Frank Buszard, Guy's Hospital.

MEDICINE.—Charles Hilton Fagge (Scholarship and Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital, and Samuel Jones Gee (Scholarship and Gold Medal), University College (equal); James Bankart, Guy's Hospital; Morell Mackenzie, London Hospital; John Henry Galton, Guy's Hospital; Frank Buszard, Guy's Hospital, and Frederick Victor Dickens, Manchester Royal Infirmary (equal).

MIDWIFERY.—John Henry Galton (Gold Medal), Guy's Hospital; Charles Hilton Fagge, Guy's Hospital; James Bankart, Guy's Hospital; Morell Mackenzie, London Hospital; Frank Buszard, Guy's Hospital.

M.D. EXAMINATION, 1861.

Samuel Hoppus Adams, University College; James Braithwaite, Leeds School of Medicine; William Cayley, King's College; Arthur John Cribb, Middlesex Hospital; Theodore Davis, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; John Easton, King's College; Henry Gervis, St. Thomas's Hospital; John Harley, King's College; Henry Staveland Thads. King, B.A. (Cambridge), King's College; Michael Thomas Sadler, B.A. (London), St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Henry Simpson, University College; Henry Montague Duncan Smith, University College; Thomas James Walker, University of Edinburgh; John Way, King's College; Fredk. Poynton Weaver, Guy's Hospital; Henry Forbes Winslow, King's College.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen held a Privy Council at Windsor Castle, on Wednesday. It was attended by Earl Granville, Lord President; the Duke of Somerset, First Lord of the Admiralty, and Lord Stanley of Alderley, Postmaster-General.

On Sunday last, the Rev. C. Kingsley preached before the Royal family in the private chapel, Windsor.

The Prince Consort continues to be indisposed with a severe cold which confines him to his room. It was originally intended that her Majesty and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and members of the Court, were to leave Windsor Castle on Friday next for Osborne, but in consequence of the indisposition of the Prince Consort, the removal of the Court is deferred for the present.

On Monday, the 16th, the Prince of Wales leaves Cambridge University, and proceeds on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, at Wimpole Hall, and the next day his Royal Highness will join the Court, and remain until after Christmas, and then proceed to the East.

Parliament, which stood prorogued to the 17th of December, has been further prorogued to Tuesday, the 7th of January. The latter date is earlier than the usual period for the meeting of Parliament, but it is thought not improbable that the position in which Great Britain stands in its relations with

other countries may render undesirable a further postponement.

Mr. Serjeant Hayes has been appointed Recorder of Leicester.

We mentioned some time ago that the reports as to the Earl of Shaftesbury's impaired state of health had been greatly exaggerated, and we are now happy to state that it is in every respect greatly improved.—*Record.*

The new judge, Mr. Mellor, has been sworn in before the Lord Chancellor in his lordship's private room at Lincoln's-inn. Mr. Mellor was called to the bar by the Society of the Inner Temple, in June, 1833, and subsequently joined the Midland Circuit, of which several years ago he became one of the leaders.

A Cabinet Council was held on Wednesday. The Earl of Derby has been entertaining a select circle of his political supporters at Knowsley. The Earl of Malmesbury, the Right Hon. Sir William Jolliffe, Lord Ravensworth, the Right Hon. Sir John Pakington, and Colonel Taylor, M.P., were of the party.

The *Morning Star* is authorised to contradict a report that Mr. Ayrton, M.P., has accepted an appointment to an Indian judgeship.

Miscellaneous News.

ANOTHER BALTIC STEAMER has been lost—the *Onda*, on the Anholt reef, being the seventeenth this year. She was a fine vessel of 700 tons, and had a cargo of 700 casks of tallow, 700 quarters of wheat, some wool, &c. The loss will fall partly on Lloyd's, and partly on the insurance-offices.

SMITHFIELD CATTLE CLUB.—A private view of the Smithfield Cattle Club Show took place on Monday evening. There was a fine selection of cattle of various breeds, the show being equal to any of its predecessors. The exhibition will be open to the public to-day.

THE PAPAL LEGATE ON SECRET SOCIETIES.—Archbishop Cullen has just published a "pastoral" to the clergy of his diocese, which was read in every Roman Catholic church in Dublin on Sunday. The Archbishop denounces the Ribbon Societies with great force, and tells the members of these secret associations that they are excommunicated by the Church, and the worst enemies of their country. The pastoral has created a great sensation.

THE ROAD ACROSS HYDE-PARK.—An influential deputation, representing various metropolitan parishes, waited upon Mr. Cowper, yesterday, to urge upon him the importance of constructing the long talked-of new road across Hyde-park, connecting Paddington and Brompton and South Kensington—a work which the exigencies of the International Exhibition seem to render imperative. The interview assumed a decidedly practical character. Mr. Cowper gave his unequivocal sanction to the scheme, and on his suggestion a committee was appointed to confer with him on the subject of ways and means.

THE VACANCY IN THE COURT OF ALDERMEN.—From the *City Press* we learn that the vacancy in the Court of Aldermen, caused by the death of Sir Peter Laurie, will, in all probability, be filled by Mr. Robert Bealey, of the well-known firm of Bealey and Co., type-founders. Mr. Bealey is a member of the Court of Common Council, and has been connected with Aldersgate forty-two years. Previous to the death of Sir Peter Laurie, Mr. Bealey had announced his intention of retiring from business; so that, should he be elected, he will be enabled to devote a large share of his time to the duties of the office, for which he is eminently fitted. Mr. Bealey has had a requisition presented to him, signed by the majority of the electors of the ward.

THE EXETER HALL LECTURES.—The fourth lecture of the Exeter-Hall series of the Young Men's Christian Association was delivered on Tuesday evening, Mr. J. Gurney Barclay presiding. The interval between the opening of the doors and the appearance of the lecturer on the platform is generally occupied by a performance on the organ. The public sensitiveness on the question of the day was evinced on Tuesday evening by the enthusiasm with which "Rule Britannia" was received, and, in compliance with the demand of the vast audience, repeated. The Rev. W. B. Mackenzie, incumbent of St. James', Holloway, was the lecturer, and his subject was "Lollardie and Wickliffe."—*Record.*

NARROW ESCAPE OF THE "FEMALE BLONDIN."—On Monday night this audacious person made her appearance at a performance in St. George's Hall, Plymouth. When all present thought the performance at an end, the "Female Blondin" again stepped on the platform, and bandaged her eyes, after which she put a sack over her head, her arms being at liberty for the purpose of using the pole. Again she started, everybody beholding her with terrified looks, in consequence of the slack state of the rope. When just beyond the chandelier nearest the organ loft, one of the side ropes suddenly broke, and the rope on which she was standing actually fell about three feet. A subdued groan instantly went through the room, as all expected to see her tumble headlong down. But she managed to save herself with the balancing pole. Several assistants instantly rushed to the gallery, where they rescued the female rope-walker from the perilous position in which she was placed. The performance then terminated. Upon examination, the rope which broke proved to be totally unfit for the purpose.—*Morning Paper.*

EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.—The *Manchester Guardian* contains a tabular statement of the condition of employment in the cotton districts, which is believed to be more com-

plete than any yet published. The returns are from 1,233 mills, ordinarily employing 266,507 operatives, and the result shown is an average reduction of 34 per cent. in the working hours. The number of hands actually out of work in the total of 266,507 is 26,194. With regard to the future course of the millowners, it is said that the reduction of employment will be increased at Christmas to at least 50 per cent. Indeed, many firms contemplate stopping for a clear month at that season. Others will limit the cessation to a week. The *Sheffield Independent* gives a very discouraging picture of the prevailing distress in that town. In a leading article it is remarked:—"There is now presented to us the spectacle of wide-spread misery and want. Thousands of industrious men are unemployed, and their families are in a state of destitution. Many have resorted to the guardians of the poor for support, and heavy rates follow one another in rapid succession, driving numbers of the poor who have hitherto kept themselves just above pauperism into the abyss. It is twenty years since we were familiar with such a state of things." Meetings are taking place in all the wards to raise funds to relieve the pauperised artisans.

Literature.

Introduction to the Pentateuch: An Inquiry, Critical and Doctrinal, into the Genuineness, Authority, and Design of the Mosaic Writings.
By the Rev. DONALD MACDONALD, M.A. Two vols. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

THE Pentateuch is the great battle-field chosen by those scholars who assail the authentic character and inspired authority of the Old Testament Scriptures; and by those representatives of modern science who regard revelation and religion as the hoary hindrances to their "positive philosophy," which here may best be mined and exploded. Unquestionably many have contracted something like a personal prejudice to the Pentateuch, from a misconception of the real design and character of the Mosaic Institutions; and, still more, of the purpose for which, and the extent to which, a general sketch of pre-historic times is included in the basis for the Mosaic legislation, and is relied on in later revelations of the Divine Will. The orthodox criticism has, too, thrown difficulties in the way of honest inquirers; by its dogged refusal to recognise phenomena felt by all the world of scholarship, and its special pleading for an exegesis often untenable, and even of daring violence to the text, for the supposed saving of the character of the venerable scripture, as fully inspired and infallibly accurate as to all the variety of matters its great final purpose required it to include or glance upon. But when we see the presumption with which the later attacks have been made,—the animus against Revelation as a whole,—and the determination to cut off, if possible, the first historical roots of Christianity,—we can but sympathise with the efforts of a sincere believer and sober scholar, such as Mr. Macdonald, to bring the entire subject under review, and to demand a sentence on the side of the ancient historical view of the authorship and genuineness of the so-called Mosaic writings. While we can conceive of earnest believers who are unable to surmount the difficulties scholarship has placed before them as to the unity or date of the Pentateuch, and are compelled to refrain from the attempted reconciliation of its literary and historic phenomena; who will yet own its religious purpose, bow to its authority as a disclosure of the true God in his living relations to them; we cannot but think the present time when it is very important to show that the literary and scientific ground is not so entirely abandoned to the hands of the assailants, as the vaunting indulged in atheistical reviews and rationalistic commentaries might lead some to suppose; and that the manner in which the Pentateuch, on the most searching scrutiny, is found to fulfil that final religious purpose which is admitted to be its distinction, reflects back a light of certitude in which its high antiquity, its true unity, and its minute accuracy, grow upon the perception, and establish themselves in the belief of the unprejudiced. This is the purpose of the work before us, and it has our hearty sympathy and approval.

Mr. Macdonald, already known by a careful and creditable work on "Creation and the Fall," has produced in these volumes the most elaborate work on the Pentateuch that has appeared in England in modern times. He has prepared himself for his task by a study of the large literature of his subject, especially, and of course, the recent German literature, which appears to be complete, intelligent, and thorough. In the critico-historical argument he is a follower of Hengstenberg and Hävernick,—or rather, belongs in spirit and aim to their class of scholars, which has its best representative, perhaps, in Keil. But, having disposed of the more strictly critical questions, his introduction enlarges into an argument for the credibility and authority of the Pentateuch drawn from its contents viewed in relation to tradition and

profane history, science, and existing monuments, and in its later half is occupied with an inquiry into the theology of these early Scriptures, or what he well calls the *Genesis of Revelation*. These are the more original parts of the work, and separate it from other introductions of a simply scholarly character.

In the opening of his work, after some important but rather desultory remarks on the place of the Pentateuch in Judaism and Christianity, Mr. Macdonald reviews the attacks on its genuineness and authenticity, devoting the chief part of his space to the hypotheses, or variously modified hypothesis, known as the Document, the Fragment, and the Complement, respectively; and to the views especially of such later writers as Tuch, Delitzsch, Kurtz, and Hupfeld, as well as Ewald, who is altogether one by himself on this question. The German apologists on the pro-Mosaic side, are perhaps more highly estimated by Mr. Macdonald, both for general scholarship and actual performance in this particular field, than will gain the assent of scholars at large. But the spirit of fairness to adversaries, and of concern for truth only, is apparent in his criticism. In the second book of his work, under the head of "The Literary Unity of the Pentateuch," he returns to the Document-hypothesis, for the purpose of showing the arbitrariness, and the differences from one another, of the writers who have attempted to assign the several portions of Genesis to original documents and the elaborations and supplements of later writers. Certainly the result discredits the "higher criticism," as having no certain principles, and as attaining only to vague and sometimes extravagant conjecture. He also brings out that concurrence of testimony, on the part of later scholars even of this school, to the essential unity of the Pentateuch, which has occasioned the regret of certain incurable antagonists, that criticism has been long pursuing a retrograde course on the subject. We by no means consider that Mr. Macdonald has disposed of the document-hypothesis in every form; but anticipate that a view akin to that of Tuch is more likely to possess the mind of the scholars of the future, as it does the later orthodox writers of Germany, than the opinion he has undertaken to defend. He has done good service, however, in rebuking by its own contradictory conclusions that presumptuous criticism which assumes to determine the original groundwork, and to consign to the custody of safe theories all the difficulties that might arrest sentence on the integrity of the text and the connexion of the narrative. Much more valuable than the discussion of the general principles of the hypotheses referred to, is the elaborate examination of that interchange of the Divine names, Jehovah and Elohim, on which so much bold conclusion has been rested; and which we think is likely to induce sober scholars to seek a reason for such interchange rather in the origin and import of the names, and in their relation to each other, than in the diversity of authorship that has been assumed. The whole result which Mr. Macdonald presses on us we need not, and are not able to, accept; but his suggestions are as important to the view we take of the scheme of revelation contained in the Pentateuch, as to the special inquiry into the characteristics of supposedly different authors. The arguments against unity of structure ordinarily founded on various verbal and idiomatic expressions, on repeated accounts of the same incidents, and on alleged contradictory statements, are met with decision, acuteness, ingenuity, and no mean success, by Mr. Macdonald: and whatever may be the judgment of critical scepticism on the details, we are persuaded that there is a good general case made out, which will justify renewed impartial consideration before the allegations of opponents are admitted to have established the fragmentary character and the late origin of the Mosaic scriptures.

The positive evidence for the antiquity and authorship of the Pentateuch is considered at length; and nowhere else has the argument been more completely or better conducted. To the chapters on Credibility we attach a still higher importance; and they will have very appreciable worth even to those who find themselves compelled to admit the presence of more than one original element in the composition of these writings.

The second volume might well detain us. It is a noticeable contribution to Biblical Theology, and the general evidence for revelation. The design of the Pentateuch as a Divine revelation, and as the basis of the Hebrew constitution and polity, has never, so far as we know, been the subject of a fuller or more careful investigation; and we cannot doubt that orthodox scholarship will place it amongst the great independent works of the modern biblical literature in England. Those who engage themselves in the popular interpretation of the Pentateuch, may here find more to assist them to an intelligent

exhibition of its relations to Christianity, than in most special commentaries.

Differing often and widely from the conclusions of Mr. Macdonald in the region of pure criticism, we are the more concerned to bear clear testimony to the remarkable value of his well-studied and conscientiously-laboured book. There is one literary fault, its diffuseness. It is quite worth while to consider, whether the impression produced by the work on its more scholarly readers will not by this means be weakened, and the progress of those who seek from it their whole instruction on its subject hindered.

Gleanings.

"A History of the Discovery of America" will form the subject of Mr. J. G. Kohl's new work.

Messrs. Macmillan will publish immediately a volume of poems, selected and arranged by Coventry Patmore, to be uniform with "The Golden Treasury." The volume will be entitled, "The Children's Garland from the Great Poets."

The same firm has also in preparation a work by Cyril Graham "On Syria, as a Province of the Ottoman Empire;" being a sketch of the political history of Syria under the Turkish rule, and comprising a detailed account of the war in Lebanon and the massacres in 1860. The work will also contain considerations on the future prospects of the province.

Messrs. Nisbet and Co. will shortly publish "Brief Memorials of the Rev. Alphonse François Lacroix," of the London Missionary Society, by his son-in-law, the Rev. Joseph Mullens; also a new and cheaper edition of "The Life and Letters of John Angell James," including an unfinished autobiography, edited by the Rev. R. W. Dale, M.A.

A Selection from the Unpublished Correspondence of Madame de Staël and the Grand Duchess Louise of Saxe Weimar, from 1800 to 1817, together with a letter to Bonaparte, First Consul, and another to Napoleon, Emperor, will be published immediately by Messrs. Saunders, Otley and Co.

Messrs. Adam and Charles Black are about to issue a new cheap edition of Sir Walter Scott's novels. This, the firm say, is consequent on the repeal of the paper duty, and they are now enabled to issue the volumes, monthly, at one shilling each. The series will commence, in January, with "Waverley," and will be continued monthly until its completion in twenty-five volumes.

DELICATE CONSTITUTIONS AND PRECARIOUS HEALTH OF CHILDREN.—Parents and medical men frequently notice that, although children are not actually ill, they are often sickly and feeble, and that food and medicine are equally unavailing in imparting health or vigour. This precarious and distressing state is thus described by the late eminent physician, Dr. Edward Carey, when writing in commendation of the surprising efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, now so well and favourably known in this country:—"It is in the diseases incidental to childhood that mainly depend on the mal-assimilation of the food in the pale cachectic child, when the anxious practitioner has exhausted the whole range of alteratives and tonics, that this Cod Liver Oil will come in and satisfy his most sanguine expectations. Where the powers of life are low, it affords nourishment to the body when none other can be borne; it furnishes the frame with fat in a truly wonderful manner; and, administered as it is in Holland, to the delicate and puny child, who, though not considered ill, is in that state of impaired health which would favour the development of disease, its extraordinary effects will soon be visible, after having taken it for a short period, in a return to health and strength which were before unknown, and which will be accomplished by no other remedy with which we are at present acquainted."—[Advertisement.]

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

FROST.—Dec. 3, at Canonbury-park, the wife of Mr. Thomas Ward Frost, of a daughter.
BUXTON.—Dec. 5, at Leytonstone, the wife of T. Fowell Buxton, Esq., of a daughter.
BULL.—Dec. 6, at Sutton-in-the-Elms, the wife of the Rev. W. Bull, B.A., of a daughter.
GREEN.—Dec. 7, at No. 9, Lansdown-place, Hackney, the wife of Mr. William Green, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

QUENBY-TAYLOR.—Nov. 25, at Maulden Meeting, Beds, by the Rev. W. Stowell, B.A., Mr. George Quenby, to Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr. William Taylor, of Ampt-hill.
EMUS-WATKINS.—November 27, at Bethel Chapel, Brecon, by the Rev. D. Charles, B.A., President of Trevecca College, Mr. Thomas Emus, of the firm of Emus and Co., Cardiff, to Anne, third daughter of Mr. John Watkins, Penkelly, Breconshire.
WATERHOUSE-CROSSLEY.—November 30, at Alredale College Chapel, by the Rev. Daniel Fraser, LL.D., Mr. Thomas Waterhouse to Miss Susannah Crossley, both of Bradford.
LAMBERT-WINTERBURN.—Nov. 30, at the Independent Chapel, Wiladen, by the Rev. John Barnaby, Mr. John Lambert, of Haworth, to Miss Esther Winterburn, of Wiladen.
SMITHER-BULLIVANT.—Nov. 30, at the Independent Chapel, Market Harboro' Mr. John Smither, Great Grimby, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Thomas Bullivant, Great Bowden.
PARRISH-ENGLAND.—December 3, at Salem Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. J. T. Barker, of Dukinfield, the Rev. H. G. Parrish, B.A., of Aberdare, South Wales, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Francis England, Esq., Knottingley.
MURRELL-BEAZLEY.—December 3, at the Congregational Church, Winchester, by the Rev. W. Thorn, by license, the Rev. George Murrell, of Medstead, Hants, to Miss Hannah Beazley, niece of John Dowling, Esq., of Winnal, Winchester.
THURLING-BURROUGHS.—Dec. 3, at the Baptist Chapel, Gt. Ellingham, by the Rev. G. Williams, Mr. William Thurling, Stow Bedon, to Jerusha, only daughter of the late Mr. Barnabas Burroughs, farmer, Old Buckenham.
WALKER-BUTTERWORTH.—December 4, at the Wesleyan Chapel, Cheetham-hill, Manchester, by the Rev. J. P. Duan, Thomas, son of W. Walker, Esq., of East-bank, Bolton, to Lizzie, daughter of Mr. E. Butterworth, Cheetham.
HALL-SUGDEN.—Dec. 5, at East-parade Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. E. R. Conder, Mr. George Hall, to Ellen Louise, eldest daughter of Mr. Wm. Sugden, all of Leeds.

DEATHS.

CANNING.—Oct. 18, at Calcutta, the Countess Canning, wife of the Governor-General of India.
 COFFIN.—Nov. 11, at Eton-place, Plymouth, John Newton Coffin, Esq., aged sixty-nine.
 HEBDITCH.—Nov. 27, at Stoke-under-Ham, Somerset, in full assurance of faith, Leah, the beloved wife of Mr. John Campbell Hebditch, aged forty-nine.
 JOHNSON.—November 27, at his residence, New-road, Whitechapel, Mr. Stephen Sparrow Johnson, in the forty-fourth year of his age. Deeply regretted by all who knew him.
 WADDY.—November 30, at Sheffield, Jemima Ellen, second daughter of the Rev. S. D. Waddy, D.D., Governor and Chaplain of Wesley College, in her twenty-ninth year, after protracted and intense suffering, borne with Christian patience.
 LAURIE.—December 3, Sir Peter Laurie, Senior Alderman of London, aged eighty-three.
 HENDERSON.—Dec. 5, at London, Gilbert Henderson, Esq., Recorder of Liverpool.
 STEVENSON.—Dec. 7, at Nottingham, suddenly, Priscilla, the wife of the Rev. J. F. Stevenson, B.A., aged twenty-eight years.

GRATIS AND POSTAGE FREE.—A Clearance Sale Catalogue of New and Popular Books, the published prices of which vary from 1s. to 31s. 10s., now reduced in price, commencing at 4d. up to 23s. 12s. 6d. All new and warranted perfect in every respect, and precisely the same as if the full price were paid. S. and T. Gilbert, 4, Copthall-buildings, back of the Bank of England, London, E.C. Please copy the address.—[Advertisement.]

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Vigilance rewarded.—With the damp, foggy, cold mornings and evenings the weak in constitution find out their feeble points, and well were it for them if they applied early treatment for invigorating them. Is the chest affected? Rub Holloway's Ointment well twice a day upon that organ, take his Pills in conformity with their accompanying "rules," the disease disappears, and with it future danger flies. Is the liver sluggish? The Pills, unaided, will rouse it to its healthful activity; or, if long inactive, use the Ointment. Is irregularity of any particular function the disorder? Consult Holloway's instructions for using his medicaments, and regulate by their timely application. They will benefit, and can do harm in no case.—[Advertisement.]

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The Money Market during the past week has been very fluctuating. On Wednesday there was a renewed fall in Consols, owing to adverse reports, and the warlike preparations of the Government. On Thursday there was a rally which was not sustained. After the official close of business Consols were offered at a further decline of a quarter per cent., in the midst of much speculative agitation. On Friday prices experienced a further considerable fall, but the market closed at a slight recovery from its lowest point. At the commencement on Saturday there was a rather better tone, but ultimately great heaviness again prevailed. On Monday the impression that the advices from New York to the 28th ult. by the Niagara encourage a hope of a disavowal of the San Jacinto outrage, and the surrender of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, caused the funds to open at a recovery of five-eighths per cent., which was fairly maintained throughout the day, with an occasional tendency to a further improvement. Consols are now about the average price at which they stood during the two years of the Crimean war.

To-day the improvement of Monday was steadily maintained. There is, however, a diminution in the amount of business transacted, and the speculators are evidently disinclined to enter largely into fresh engagements, because the market may at any moment be influenced in an important degree by the arrival of later intelligence from America. Later in the day, owing to a few sales on speculative account, Consols were $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. lower, viz., 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ for Transfer, and 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ for the Account. The New Threes and Reduced are 89 $\frac{1}{2}$ 90. Exchequer Bills, March, 10s. to 12s. prem.; and ditto, June, 12s. to 15s. prem. India Stock is 227 $\frac{1}{2}$ 230; ditto, Five per Cent. Loan, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$ 102 $\frac{1}{2}$; ditto, Five per Cent. Enforced Paper, 96 $\frac{1}{2}$; ditto, Five-and-a-Half per Cent., 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; ditto, Debentures, 98; and ditto Bonds, 13s. to 16s. prem.

The dealings in the Railway Share Market have been limited, and prices have shown a slight downward movement. Caledonians have receded to 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern Counties to 51 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Westerns to 68 $\frac{1}{2}$; North-Westerns to 92 $\frac{1}{2}$; South-Westerns to 93 $\frac{1}{2}$; Midlands to 126 $\frac{1}{2}$ 127; and South-Easterns to 75 $\frac{1}{2}$. Great Northern, however, have improved to 112 $\frac{1}{2}$. The Foreign and Colonial lines remained without any material change in prices. South Austrian and Lombard-Venetian realise 18 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Luxembourg, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 8 $\frac{1}{2}$; East Indian, 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Indian Peninsula, 99 $\frac{1}{2}$; Grand Trunk of Canada, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ 18 $\frac{1}{2}$; and Great Western of Canada, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Joint-Stock Bank and Miscellaneous Shares remain at about previous values, London Joint-Stock being dealt in at 32 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and Westminster at 70 $\frac{1}{2}$; Oriental Bank at 49 $\frac{1}{2}$; Crystal Palace Stock at 32 $\frac{1}{2}$; and Oriental Inland Steam at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$.

At Lloyd's a large business has been done in war risks. For homeward China ships the rate has advanced to about 30s. per cent., while for outward vessels about 15s. was paid. Some American ships were offered, but refused.

Throughout the manufacturing districts, great heaviness has prevailed during the whole of the past week. As the stock of goods are only moderate for the time of year, no material change has taken place in the quotations; but, to force sales, lower rates must be submitted to.

On Monday, cotton was reported $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. dearer

in Liverpool the probabilities of amicable relations being preserved between this country and the Federal States having shaken the expectation of the blockade of the Southern ports being raised. The sales amounted to 10,000 bales; of this number, speculators and exporters took 3,000. The imports were 4,920 bales. There are said to be now 55,000 bales of Surat cotton at sea. The total stock at Liverpool on the 6th inst. was 606,810, against 579,620 last year.

The Gazette.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 37, for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 4.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued ..	£28,938,190
Government Debt ..	£11,015,100
Other Securities ..	3,634,900
Gold Bullion	14,238,190
Silver Bullion	—
	£28,938,190

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital ..	£14,553,000
Reserve ..	3,125,862
Public Deposits ..	5,296,334
Other Deposits ..	13,273,192
Seven Day and other Bills ..	768,197
	£36,896,585

Dec. 5, 1861.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier

Friday, Dec. 6, 1861.

BANKRUPT.

Groomes, J., Shalford, Essex, Clerk, and vicar of Shalford.
 Borland, J., the younger, High-street, Camberwell, cheesemonger.
 Smyth, T., Vassal-place, North Brixton.
 Hopkins, J., and Hackett, H., Banbury, builders.
 Holland, H., Brighton.
 Towns, J., Cross-street North, Bermondsey, carman.
 Moss, H., Pentonville-road.
 Muford, A. H., Bronte-place, East-street, Walworth, laundryman.
 Cockell, T., Leadenhall-street, and Malvern-road, Dalston, printer.
 Moslin, J., Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, saddler.
 M'Bride, J., Broadway, Hackney, chief usher of the police court, Worship-street.
 Southan, J. M., Newington-causeway, clerk.
 Hardisty, E., late of Leadenhall-market, and Bedford-square, Mile-end, licensed victualler.
 Hay, S., late of Eaton-street, Regent's-park, retired captain.
 King, W. R., Camberwell-green, corn merchant.
 Ashford, T. F., Lorimore-square, Walworth, commission-agent.
 Tucker, A. E., Stanhope-street, Hampstead-road, commercial traveller.
 Davis, M., St. John's-street, Islington, traveller to a woollen draper.
 Hackshaw, T., Oxford, haircutter.
 Morgan, E., Chapel-row, Kentish-town, corn dealer.
 Isaacs, P., Curtain-road, chair maker.
 Brown, G., the elder, and Brown, G., the younger, Edgeware, bakers.
 Chilton, J., Knockholt, near Sevenoaks, farmer.
 Webb, R., Yalding, Kent, farmer.
 Ruthe, T. R., Bridport-place, Hoxton, draper.
 Mew, J. P., and Thorne, G., Newport and West Cowes, Isle of Wight, engineers.
 Lloyd, L. W., New-road, Hammersmith, brickmaker.
 Merriks, T., King-street, Clerkenwell, watchmaker.
 Albrecht, J. J., Cornwall-road, Lambeth.
 Winter, J. and E. B., Mare-street, Hackney, boarding-house keepers.
 Raredon, J., King's-road, Chelsea, and Strutton-ground, Westminster, tailor.
 Moon, T., Victoria-terrace, Belsize-road, St. John's-wood, fishmonger.
 Child, J., late of Oxford-square, Paddington.
 Southes, S. S., Cottage-grove, Walworth, bookseller's clerk.
 Bath, S., Widgegate-street, Bishopsgate, coal merchant.
 Moore, J., Clapham, builder's clerk.
 Wright, C., Lambeth-walk, clothier.
 Hibbard, J., Bennett-street, Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road.
 Seabright, G., Farm-lane, Fulham, laundryman.
 Dutton, W. H., Theydon Bois, Epping, farmer.
 Gee, J. F., Laurence Pountney-lane, colliery-agent.
 Mendham, H. R., Eye, Suffolk, coachbuilder.
 Syme, H., Cecil-street, Strand, merchant.
 Marriott, S., Greenwich and Southwark-bridge-road, smith.
 Haworth, E. C. A., Elizabeth-street, Eaton-square.
 Ashdown, H., Woolwich, confectioner.
 Shubotham, J., Swinerton, Staffordshire, farm bailiff.
 Bidgood, R. and Day, W., Nottingham, lace makers.
 Bowman, T., Kirby, Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, lime burner.
 Faulkner, C., Mickleton, Gloucestershire, licensed victualler.
 Lund, J., York, cattle dealer.
 Atkinson, W., Leeds, commercial traveller.
 Jackson, E., Leeds, cloth manufacturer.
 Greatham, F., Liverpool, flour dealer.
 Roberts, T., Brynwgwan, near Holyhead, surgeon.
 Bloom, M., late of Manchester, furniture dealer.
 Johnston, A., late of Warrington, provision dealer.
 Chapman, W., Heighington, near Darlington, artist.
 Taylor, J., Birmingham.
 Evans, S. J., Birmingham, machinist.
 Himsley, F., Birmingham, carpenter.
 Mercer, J. E., Birmingham, furniture remover.
 Baker, T., Bristol, painter.
 Brice, J., Bristol, auctioneer.
 Williams, R., Liverpool, labourer.
 Hornby, J., Liverpool, grocer.
 Kingston, T., Manchester, journeyman watchmaker.
 Groome, J., Manchester, late a millwright.
 Duffy, J., Manchester, chair maker.
 Shakespeare, C., and Audley, J., Coventry, riband weavers.
 Blake, H. J., Landport, Hants, journeyman carpenter.
 Baxter, J. W. R., Emsworth, Southampton, surgeon.
 Unwin, J., Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, tallow chandler.
 Petchell, E. and C., Sheffield, milliners.
 Froggatt, T., Sheffield, table-knife cutler.
 Lawson, E., Sheffield, bootmaker.
 Spicer, T., Brewod, Staffordshire, farmer.
 Baker, E., Willenhall, butcher.
 Wallett, J., Bilston, butty miner.
 Smart, W., Bilston, fruiterer.
 Andrew, W., Pattingham.
 Peace, J., Almondbury, wollen cloth weaver.
 Deser, W., Liverpool, team owner.
 Charles, T., Withington, near Manchester, plumber.
 Smithers, J., Witley, Surrey, dealer in underwood.
 Rawlings, W., Peterborough, agent for the sale of flour.
 Adams, F., Peterborough, hair dresser.
 Batten, S., Peterborough, horse breaker.
 Jamblin, J. jun., Fletton, Huntingdonshire, photographic artist.

Aston, S., late of Stourbridge, licensed victualler.
 Jenkinson, T. E., Whitby, confectioner.
 Holmes, G., Ashchurch, Gloucestershire, beerhouse-keeper.
 Short, T., Exmoor, travelling tea dealer.
 Mead, W., Dunstable, butcher.
 Jenkins, W. F., Aldershot, baker.
 Rogers, R., Nottingham, cabinet-maker.
 Wollarton, G., Gotham, Nottinghamshire, bootmaker.
 Coleman, H. S., Deal, carpenter.
 Booth, T., York, licensed victualler.
 Jevons, D., Tipton, innkeeper.
 Gowen, H., Colchester, bootmaker.
 Chaplin, J., Wolston, Warwickshire, labourer.
 Spittle, R. T. H., Berwick-upon-Tweed, house carpenter.
 Nichol, H., Tweedmouth, Berwick-upon-Tweed, agricultural implement maker.
 Begbie, the Rev. A. G., Beamister, clerk in holy orders.
 Fairs, S. H., Ipswich, furrier.
 Sewell, W., Appleby, cooper.
 Yager, S., Plymouth, general dealer.
 Davies, A., Wolstanton, Staffordshire, miner.
 Breeze, T., Stoke-upon-Trent.
 Swann, J. F., Canterbury, dealer in linseed cake.
 Umbleby, T., Leeds, cattle dealer.
 Feamley, J., Hunst, Inland Revenue officer.
 Nuttall, J., Bury, draper.
 Caton, J. S., Bidstone, Cheshire, post-office clerk.
 Crang, W., Combmartin, farmer, and Shapland, J., Braunton, veterinary surgeon.
 Marchant, E., late of Burnham.
 Facer, T., Sulgrave, Northamptonshire, baker.
 Sladden, W., Maidstone.
 Turner, S., Maidstone.
 Pinchbeck, A., Horncastle, bricklayer.
 Lovatt, D., Wolstanton, Staffordshire, draper.

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1861.

BANKRUPT.

Temple, J., Mortlake, Surrey, grocer.
 Yarrow, E. W., Islington, mercantile clerk.
 Gill, E., Walthamstow, omnibus proprietor.
 Utting, C., Camberwell, short hand writer.
 Ward, P., Red Lion-street, Holborn, chemist.
 Hunt, C., Paddington, house decorator.
 Evans, F. W., New Kent road, cab driver.
 Thorogood, G., Romford, carpenter.
 Green, J., Luard-street, Islington, cab driver.
 Warren, A., Deptford, warehouseman's assistant.
 Bassett, W. S. C. W., Sheerness, grocer.
 Rodigue, P. M., Little Tower-street, wine merchant.
 Mortimer, J., Hornsey-street, Holloway-road, stone merchant.
 Setchell, O. C., Sidmouth-street, Gray's-ina-road, draper.
 Wilson, F. D., Trafalgar-road, Old Kent-road, accountant.
 Watkins, J., Wellington-road West, Kentish Town, engraver.
 Fry, W., Walworth, journeyman baker.
 Porter, H. W., late of Chiswell-street, engraver.
 Bond, H., Fressingfield, Suffolk, grocer.
 Graves, W. H., Northwold, Norfolk, ironmonger.
 Mathews, J., Edward terrace, Caledonian-road, hoailer.
 Collins, W., Dean-street, Soho, cabinet maker.
 Grondona, E., Albany-street, Regent's-park, cook.
 Riley, R. S., and Ginner, J. E., Upper East Smithfield, coal merchants.
 Barton, J., Bookham-street, Hoxton, clerk.
 Portch, W. S., Henry-street, Hampstead-road, cheesemonger.
 Ellison, J., High-street, Poplar, warehouseman.
 Poake, W., Newnham-street, Edgware-road, dressing-case maker.
 Pike, A. B., Greenwich, clerk.
 Armfield, J., Addington-road, Bow, clerk.
 Camkin, T., Victoria Dock-road, draper.
 Weedon, C., Marylebone, job master.
 Tunbridge, J., Blackfriars-road, baker.
 Godfrey, S., Well-street, City, milliner.
 Green, E., Marsh Gibbon, Bucks, teacher.
 M'Kenzie, R., Cecil-street, Strand.
 Duncan, W., Bloomsbury, eating-house keeper.
 Morrison, P., Pall-mall East, trader.
 Lush, J., Haymarket, carman.
 Moore, T., Goodman's-yard, Minorities, wheelwright.
 Blunsom, R. K., Thrapstone, Northampton, commercial traveller.
 Morrison, R., Upper Gloucester-street, Dorset-square, clerk.
 Reaney, G., Smith-street, Clerkenwell, cutler.
 Ruby, J., Ockenden-road, bull ter.
 Chambers, C., Heath-street, Hampstead, builder.
 Jackson, J., Hatton-garden, coffee-house keeper.
 Rainey, R., Birmingham, livery stable keeper.
 Wilson, E., Birmingham, stationer.
 Hadley, G., Rowley Regis, Staffordshire, publican.
 Barron, W., Gellidowell, Glamorgan, publican.
 Cohen, F. and L., Newcastle, clothiers.
 Hudson, H., Birmingham, iron brazier.
 Cook, J., Birmingham, coach builder.
 Collins, T., Balaal-heat, licensed victualler.
 Williams, H. J., Bristol, commercial traveller.
 Dalton, A., Bristol, horse keeper.
 Hodder, A., Bristol, carpenter.
 Oldham, E., Blackley, Manchester, butcher.
 Hancock, T., Newton-heat, dyer.
 Green, W., Hurst, carrier.
 Thomas, J., Bisove, Cornwall, butcher.
 Richardson, G., Brighton, music seller.
 Fraser, J., Pen-y-park, Monmouthshire, farmer.
 Dyer, A., Corfe Castle, Dorsetshire, surgeon.
 Newcombe, J. J., Stoke, Devonshire, coach proprietor.
 Trump, W. V., North Petherton, Somersetshire, farmer.
 Furneaux, J. A., Stoke, Devonshire, Commander, R.N.
 Busfield, E., Leeds, cloth manufacturer.
 Riley, W., Todmorden, Yorkshire, tailor.
 Grier, W. H., Hinderwell, Yorkshire, innkeeper.
 Gregory, S., Filey, Yorkshire, innkeeper.
 Martindale, J., Chesterfield, draper.
 Mason, G., Sheffield, grocer.
 Cullen, M., Beccles, Suffolk, schoolmistress.
 Mills, R., Sedgley, Staffordshire, beerhouse-keeper.
 Prime, J., Westbromwich, Staffordshire, boat steerer.
 Woodward, W., Westbromwich, Staffordshire, licensed victualler.
 Harris, T., Stafford, baker.
 Burton, W., Tonbridge-wells, bookbinder.
 Knight, H., Portsmouth, assistant paymaster, R.N.
 Spence, D. T., Portsea, boatwain, R.N.
 Turrell, T., Coventry, cattle dealer.
 Cooper, D., Gainsborough, baker.
 Simpson, W., Tunstall, Staffordshire, greengrocer.
 Evans, W., Plas Captain, Flintshire, sheep dealer.
 Emery, W., Bath, carpenter.
 Jones, D., Goyalt, Carmarthenshire, farmer.
 Prosser, M., Mothney, Carmarthenshire, publican.
 Davies, W., Northop, Flintshire, wheelwright.
 Usher, J., Manchester, tailor.
 Feltus, J., Salford, beer-seller.
 Hemming, J., Knowle, Warwickshire, painter.
 Hunt, W., Norwich, bookseller.
 Holliday, S., Laister Dyke, Yorkshire, coal agent.
 Bowen, T., Sarn, Montgomeryshire.
 Higginbotham, W., Whittington, ironstone dealers.
 Oakes, A., Shfield, shoe dealer.
 Waldegrave, D. B., Jun., Spilsby, draper.
 Brown, F. S., Hull, merchant.
 Lawrence, E. W., Liverpool, auctioneer.
 Yeoward, W. H., Liverpool, ship broker.
 Bloom, M., Manchester, furniture dealer.
 Stirke, H., Manchester, attorney.
 Sugden, F., Oldham, machinist.
 Postlethwaite, J., Ulverston, hooper.

Collinson, W., Black-hill, Durham, draper.
 Martin, F. G., Holbeach, butcher.
 Chitty, J., Southampton, farmer.
 Marsh, T., Southampton, watchmaker.
 Adams, J., Southampton, baker.
 Robertson, D., Lincoln, joiner.
 Hardy, S., Dedbury, Lancashire, blacksmith.
 Bury, R., Little Bolton, Lancashire, fisher.
 Rippon, J., Boston, engine driver.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Dec. 9.

The accounts received this morning from America, being of a more pacific character, have produced quite a reaction in feeling in our market this day on all descriptions of grain. The supply of English wheat was again extremely small, nevertheless the demand was very limited, although offered freely at the rates of last week, and some remained unsold at the close. Foreign wheat has quite lost the advance of Wednesday and Friday last; the few sales made to-day have been in small parcels to necessitous buyers at about the currency of Monday last. There is a slow trade for barley, without alt ration in the price. Beans and peas are both rather cheaper. Owing to contrary winds the supplies of oats from Sweden and Denmark have been kept back, consequently the show here is very small. Good sweet horse-corn being scarce is saleable at the full rates of this day week, but light and inferior sorts are difficult to move.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat	s. s.	Wheat	s. s.
Essex and Kent, Red	59 0/4	Dantzic	62 1/2
Ditto White	60 0/8	Konigsberg	56 7/8
Lincoln, Norfolk, and		Pomeranian, Red	58 6/8
Yorkshire Red	59 6/4	Mecklenburg	58 6/8
Bye	36 40	Uckermark, Red	53 6/8
Barley, new, malting	32 36	Rostock	60 7/8
Chevalier	35 40	Silesian, Red	53 6/8
Grinding	23 31	Danish and Holstein	52 6/4
Distilling	33 36	Petersburg	54 6/8
Malt, Essex, Norfolk,		Odesa	26 39
and Suffolk	50 68	Riga and Archangel	54 6/8
Kingston, Ware, and		Rhine & Belgium	58 6/8
town made	50 68	Egyptian	—
Brown	52 68	American (U.S.)	58 70
Beans, mazagan	34 38	Barley, grinding	27 25
Ticks	33 38	Distilling	32 35
Harrow	36 42	Beans—	
Pigeon	43 46	Friesland	36 41
Peas, White	40 45	Holstein	36 41
Grey	36 39	Egyptian	36 38
Maple	40 44	Peas, feeding	40 43
Boilers	40 45	Fine boilers	43 45
Oats, English, feed	20 25	Oats—	
Scotch do	23 27	Dutch	20 26
Irish do, white	19 22	Jaude	—
Do, black	19 22	Danish	21 24
Flour, town made, per		Danish, Yellow feed	21 24
Sack of 280 lbs		Swedish	21 24
Households	48 55	Petersburg	23 26
Country	40 44	Flour, per bar of 196 lbs	—
Households, new	45 47	New York	28 33
Norfolk and Suffolk		Spanish, per sack	—
ex-ship, new	40 43	Indian Corn, White	36 39
Olive-seed, per cwt. of		Yellow	36 39
112 lbs. English	—	Carrawayseed, per cwt.	—

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 8 1/2d to 9d; household ditto, 8 1/2d to 8d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Dec. 9.

For the time of year, to-day's market was but moderately supplied with foreign stock, which moved off slowly, on somewhat easier terms. The arrivals of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts were to a limited extent as to number, but in greatly improved condition, especially the arrivals from Scotland. Although, owing to the prevailing mild weather, all breeds met a dull inquiry, last Monday's quotations were well supported, and, in some few instances, prices were slightly increased. A few very inferior Scots was sold at 5s per 8 lbs. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire, the arrivals amounted to about 2,200 shorthorns and mixed breeds; from other parts of England 500 various breeds; from Scotland 300 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 500 oxen and heifers. The supply of sheep was limited, even for the time of year. The mutton trade ruled steady, but by no means active, at compared with last week, full quotations. Very superior Downs sold at 5s 8d, but the general top figure for mutton was 5s 6d per 8 lbs. We have to report a small supply of calves, which moved off steadily, at full prices. The highest quotation was 5s 6d per 8 lbs. Prime small porkers changed hands freely at about late rates, but for large hogs there was very little business doing. The great Christmas market will be held here on Monday next.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the Offal.

s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.	
Inf. coarse beasts	2 10 to 3 2	Pr. coarse woolled	4 6 to 5 2
Second quality	3 4 to 3 10	Prime Southdown	5 4 to 5 6
Prime large oxen	4 0 to 4 6	Lge. coarse calves	4 6 to 5 0
Prime Scots, &c.	4 8 to 4 10	Prime small	5 2 to 5 6
Coarse inf. sheep	3 2 to 3 6	Large hogs	3 10 to 4 4
Second quality	3 8 to 4 4	Neat sm. porkers	4 6 to 4 10

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Dec. 9.

The supply of meat is somewhat extensive. The trade, as regards good and prime qualities, is steady, at higher prices. Inferior descriptions are in slow demand; nevertheless, the currencies are supported.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.	
Inferior beef	2 8 to 3 2	Small pork	4 6 to 5 0
Middling ditto	3 4 to 3 8	Inf. mutton	3 4 to 3 8
Prime large do	3 8 to 3 10	Middling ditto	3 10 to 4 2
Do. small do.	4 0 to 4 2	Prime ditto	4 4 to 4 6
Large pork	3 10 to 4 4	Veal	3 8 to 4 8

PRODUCE MARKET, MINCHING-LANE, Dec. 10.

TEA.—There has been a limited demand, at previous rates. SUGAR.—A limited amount of transactions have been entered into, and but little change has taken place in prices. In the refined market dried goods are without any variation in prices.

COFFEE.—Sales progress quietly in most kinds of coffee, at late rates.

RICE.—The business in this market for home consumption was very moderate, but for export there has been a fair inquiry, and prices are steadily maintained.

SALT.—Rather large transactions have been entered into for the better descriptions, and late rates experienced a slight advance.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, Dec. 7.—Owing to the favourable weather we have lately experienced, the supply of most things continues to be well kept up, and that of fruit is still sufficient for the demand, with perhaps the exception of pears, which comprise Glen Moreau, Marie Louise, Chaumontel, and Brown Beurre. Among apples are some good examples of American New Town Pippin, Ribstone Pippin, and Foarn's Pippin. Grapes and pine apples are abundant.

Of vegetables there is still a fair supply. For potatoes markets are heavy, and prices about the same as last week. Cucumbers are not so plentiful, but are still sufficient for the demand. Cut flowers chiefly consist of Orchids, Chrysanthemums, Violets, Mignonette, Heaths, and Roses.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Dec. 9.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 2,785 firkins butter, and 2,498 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 11,753 casks butter, and 431 bales of bacon. The Irish butter market continues in an inactive state, but a limited amount of business transacted: some best Limericks sold at 9s 6d on board. The foreign market was firmer; fine American brought an advance of 2s per cwt, and best Dutch, the quality having improved, advanced to 11s. The bacon market ruled flat, and prices declined 1s to 2s per cwt without any increased demand; the dealers purchase most cautiously for immediate use.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Dec. 9.—Fair average supplies of potatoes continue on sale at these markets: generally speaking the demand rules steady, and prices are well supported. The show of foreign samples is still much restricted. Scotch Regents 11s to 14s, Scotch Rocks 10s to 12s, York Regents 12s to 14s, York Flukes 13s to 14s, Kent and Essex, 10s to 13s, Lincolnshire 9s to 13s, Foreign 9s to 12s per ton.

HOPS, Monday, Dec. 9.—We have no change to report in the character of our market; the transactions still continue limited, and the few hops on offer are held for full rates. In foreign hops there is no much doing. Mid and East Kents, 18s to 22s; Weald of Kents, 14s to 16s, 18s to 22s; Sussex, 13s to 15s, 15s. The imports of foreign hops into London last week were 233 bales from Hamburg, 209 from Boulogne, 452 from Antwerp, 73 from Calais, 12 from Ostend, 652 from Rotterdam, 51,522 lbs, and 79 from New York, 7 from Bremen, 144 from Dunkirk.

WOOL, Monday, Dec. 9.—During the past week there has been a moderate business doing in most kinds of home-grown wool for home consumption, and a few parcels have been taken for export to France and Belgium; prices, generally, may be considered steady. The supplies of wool on offer have not increased of late; nevertheless, they are fully equal to the demand.

SEEDS, Monday, Dec. 9.—There is now more disposition for business in agricultural seeds of all descriptions, and but for the advanced rates required by foreign red clover sellers, some amount of business could be done. English red comes forward rather more freely, and is steady in value. White clover remains inactive. Fine qualities of trefoil are inquired for, but middling qualities are difficult of sale. Canary is again noted 2s to 3s lower.

OIL, Monday, Dec. 9.—Linseed oil is less firm at 35s 3d to 35s 6d per cwt on the spot. Rape oil, coconut, and palm oils are in very moderate request, yet no change of importance has taken place in their value, compared with last week. Turpentine is dull, and American spirits are nominally quoted at 65s per cwt.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—Saturday, Dec. 7.—For flax we have to report a limited sale, at late rates. Hemp is steady, and clean Russian is worth 35s per ton. Jute is in less request, and prices are maintained. Coir goods are a steady sale, and firm in value.

COALS, Monday, Dec. 9.—Factors were obliged to submit to a reduction on all sales effected. We had a very heavy market. Hettons 17s 6d, Haswell 17s 3d, Lambtons 17s 3d, South Hartlepool 16s 6d, Horton 16s 3d, Wyham 16s, Hartleys 16s 9d, Tanfield 14s. Fresh arrivals, 44; left from last day, 44.—Total 75.

TALLOW, Monday, Dec. 9.—The tallow trade is steady to-day at 52s per cwt. on the spot, and at 52s 9d to 53s for January to March delivery. Rough fat 2s 8 1/2d per 8 lbs.

	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.
Stock.....	Casks. 35144	Casks. 33264	Casks. 48619	Casks. 73380	Casks. 50973
Price of Yellow Candle.....	52s 3d	51s 0d	55s 9d	60s 6d	52s 0d
Delivery last Week.....	0s 0d	0s 0d	55s 0d	0s 0d	0s 0d
Ditto from the 1st of June.....	2917	2831	163	1657	2069
Arrived last Week.....	6783	6055	48401	50921	78139
Ditto from the 1st of June.....	1192	6894	93	1179	7461
Price of Town Tallow.....	55s 9d	55s 6d	57s 3d	69s 3d	53s 6d

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To be obtained only of Mr. Ephraim Mosely, Surgeon-Dentist, 9, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square, London; 11, Gay-street, Bath; and 10, Eldon-square, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

CONSUMPTION and other Diseases characterised by a rapid circulation of the blood cannot be cured or even alleviated until the pulse is reduced. This can only be accomplished by the use of

OZONIZED COD LIVER OIL,

As proved at the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, London. See "Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society's Transactions." Vol. XLII., for 1859; "Lancet," July 9, 1859, and March 9, 1861; "Pharmaceutical Journal," August 1, 1859, &c.

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HARPER TWELVETREES' WASHING and WRINGING MACHINE for the MILLION has been aptly termed the

POOR MAN'S MACHINE.

It is not only the perfection of simplicity, but the perfection of cheapness. The Guinea size is adapted for five or six in family. It can be worked by a child, or a lady may become her own Laundress, and will wash as many clothes in an hour as a woman can wash in two days by the old method of hand-rubbing, bed as doing the work better with half the soap and fuel. It will Wash and Wring Blankets, Sheets, Cottons, or any large things, as easy as it will do a handkerchief or collar. All who have seen it in operation or have tried it in their own houses admit that it is the cleanest, most simple, speedy, effective, and economical machine ever invented, and it is the very thing long wanted for the Working Classes.—Protected by Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.

From Mr. S. GREEN, Auctioneer and Valuer, Roscommon.

Dear Sir,—I have much pleasure in informing you that I have set your "Washing and Wringing Machine" to work, and that it has done its business admirably. The maid informs me that she can do more washing in one hour with it than formerly took her the entire day; that the washing is done better, and with half the soap and fuel she formerly used.

From Mr. WM. BAIRD, 140, Bishop-street, Londonderry.

Sir,—I beg leave to state that your "Washing and Wringing Machine" has been tried, and it has far exceeded my expectations. It does the work most beautifully, and I have no hesitation in saying that it will be highly appreciated in this country, when the public knows its utility.

From FARRELL M'DONNELL, Esq., Merchant, Roscommon.

Dear Sir,—I feel pleasure in informing you that I consider your "Washing and Wringing Machine" is simple, cheap, and effective; and my Laundress states that the washing has been done with perfect safety to the clothes.

From Messrs. LESLIE and GARDEN, 57, Middle Abbey-street, Dublin.

Dear Sir,—We have much pleasure in informing you that we have tested your "Washing and Wringing Machine," and find that it does its work admirably.

STROKES TOWN UNION.

At a meeting of the Board of Guardians yesterday, the Master reported most satisfactorily of Mr. Harper Twelvetrees' "Washing and Wringing Machine," by the use of which the clothes are better washed, and at less expense of soap and labour than ever heretofore.—Roscommon Messenger, September 21, 1861.

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION

From the Clerk to the Board of Guardians of the Strokes-town Union.

Strokes-town Union, Sept. 19th, 1861.

Sir,—I am directed by the Guardians of the Strokes-town Union to inform you that one of your "Washing Machines," which is in regular use in this Establishment, has given the utmost satisfaction. The Matron reports that it has not alone effected a saving in labour, fuel, and washing materials, but by its use the clothes are better washed, and the fabric less injured than by the hand process heretofore the practice in this Establishment.

Yours obediently,

M. FLYNN, Clerk to the Union.

From ABRAHAM M'CULLOUGH, Esq., Portadown.

Dear Sir,—I have much pleasure in stating that your "Washing Machine" is very efficient, saving time, soap, and fuel, allowing more comfort on a washing day than has hitherto been experienced; and the washing being completed by breakfast-time what formerly occupied two women a day. I can strongly recommend your machines as being superior to any that has come under my notice.

ABRAHAM M'CULLOUGH.

From JOHN KELLY, Esq., C.E., Roscommon.

I have tested the "Washing Machine" with your excellent "Washing Cream," and I am delighted to inform you that it turned out several batches of clothes in a few minutes, and so perfectly clean that the bystanders were astonished. I think it is beyond the reach of human ingenuity to devise a cheaper, more simple, and efficient Domestic Machine.

No. 1 size—for a small family, or for the Nursery..... £1 1 0
 No. 2 size—for ten or twelve in family..... 2 0 0
 No. 3 size—for Hotels, Schools, and Large Families..... 2 10 0
 No. 4 size—for Public Institutions, Prisons, and Army Laundries..... 8 10 0

Orders are received where HARPER TWELVETREES' SOAP POWDER is purchased, or the Machines may be procured through any Ironmonger or Implement Dealer.

TERMS:—CASH ON DELIVERY.

All Orders from a distance accompanied by a remittance to the Works will receive prompt attention, and if the Machine does not give satisfaction after a week's trial, it will be taken back and the money returned.

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Mr. LEWIN MOSELY, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

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Address, Dr. Smith, 8, Burton-crescent, Tavistock-square London, W.C.

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